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Spatial Alignment of Coding and Modulation Helps Content Delivery

Dongzhu Liu and Kaibin Huang

Abstract

Multimedia content especially videos is expected to dominate data traffic in next-generation mobile networks. Caching popular content at the network edge, namely content helpers (base stations and access points), has emerged to be a solution for low-latency content delivery. Compared with the traditional wireless communication, content delivery has a key characteristic that many signals coexisting in the air carry identical popular content. They, however, can interfere with each other at a receiver if their *modulation-and-coding* (MAC) schemes are adapted to individual channels following the classic approach. To address this issue, we present a novel idea of content adaptive MAC (CAMAC) where adapting MAC schemes to content ensures that all signals carry identical content are encoded using an identical MAC scheme, achieving spatial MAC alignment. Consequently, interference can be harnessed as signals, to improve the reliability of wireless delivery. In the remaining part of the paper, we focus on quantifying the gain CAMAC can bring to a content-delivery network using a stochastic-geometry model. Specifically, content helpers are distributed as a Poisson point process, each of which transmits a file from a content database based on a given popularity distribution. Given a fixed threshold on the signal-to-interference ratio for successful transmission, it is discovered that the successful contentdelivery probability is closely related to the distribution of the ratio of two independent shot noise processes, named a *shot-noise ratio*. The distribution itself is an open mathematical problem that we tackle in this work. Using stable-distribution theory and tools from stochastic geometry, the distribution function is derived in closed form. Extending the result in the context of content-delivery networks with CAMAC yields the content-delivery probability in different closed forms. In addition, the gain in the probability due to CAMAC is shown to grow with the level of skewness in the content popularity distribution.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Videos and other types of multimedia data are becoming increasingly dominant in mobile traffic that is undergoing exponential growth. This gives next-generation mobile networks a key mission of supporting low-latency and reliable content delivery. It is widely agreed that caching popular content at content helpers (e.g. base stations and access points) at the network edge is a promising solution. In this context, the paper presents a novel algorithm, called *content adaptive modulation-and-coding* (CAMAC), for efficient content delivery. The algorithm aligns the *modulation-and-coding* (MAC) schemes used by content helpers to allow users to retrieve useful content from interference. Furthermore, we analyze the performance of a content-delivery network adopting CAMAC using a stochastic geometry model. In the process, an open problem concerning the distribution of the ratio of two shot noise processes is solved.

A. Techniques for Content Caching and Delivery

Under the constraint that helpers have finite storage, efficient content delivery requires the joint design of the techniques for content caching and delivery. One approach, called coded caching, is to jointly encode content cached at multiple helpers such that the broadcast nature of wireless transmission can be exploited for efficient content delivery by reducing the number of channel usage [1], [2]. Another approach does not involve coding and focus solely on optimizing the content placement at multiple helpers to reduce delivery latency. Solving the problem of optimal content placement was found to be NP-hard [3], [4]. Thus, most research based on the current approach aims at designing sub-optimal techniques using diversified tools such as greedy algorithms [3] and belief-propagation [4]. A survey of recent advancement in this direction can be found in e.g., [5].

In this work, we propose a new approach for efficient content delivery from the perspective of adaptive MAC. In classic communication theory, the MAC scheme is adapted to the channel state for coping with channel fading [6], [7]. In contrast, the proposed CAMAC design is to adapt MAC to the transmitted content file. The design is motivated by the fact that in a content-delivery system, many coexisting signals in the air carry the same popular content. Then CAMAC ensures all such signals are encoded using an identical MAC scheme, allowing their combing at any intended/unintended receiver instead of interfering with each other. In other words, CAMAC represents a low-cost cooperative scheme for content helpers without requiring message passing between them. The design effectively coordinates all helpers into a content-broadcast system.

B. Modeling and Designing Content-Delivery Networks

The design and analysis of large-scale content-delivery networks is currently a highly active area. The research in the area focuses on designing strategies for caching content at helpers with finite storage, so as to optimize the network performance. Stochastic-geometric network models are commonly adopted in this area where content helpers are typically distributed as *Poisson point process* (PPP). Correspondingly, the network performance is measured by the product of *hit probability* [8], defined as the probability that a file requested by a typical user is available at the associated helper and the *content-delivery probability*, defined as the probability that a transmitted file is received by an intended user with a signal-to-interference ratio (SIR) or signal-to-interference-noise ratio (SINR) exceeding a given threshold [9]. Based on the network model and performance metrics, caching strategies have been designed for various types of content-delivery networks including device-to-device networks [10]–[12], cellular networks [8], heterogeneous networks [13]–[16], and multicell cooperative networks [17]. Depending on whether the decision on caching a file and a helper is fixed or randomized caching, the strategies can be separated into deterministic caching [10], [11], [13], [14], [17] and random caching [8], [12], [15], [16]. The common findings of this series of research are that both popular and unpopular content files should be made available in networks but the corresponding helper decisions depend on their popularity as well as the helpers' parameters e.g., storage capacity and transmission power.

The prior work shares the assumption that the signals transmitted by helpers appear as interference at unassociated users even if they attempt to receive the same content as carried in the interference signals [8], [10]–[16]. The assumption implies that the MAC schemes at non-cooperative helpers are independently adapted, resulting in independently distributed signals regardless of their content. This justifies the said assumption. In contrast, the deployment of the proposed CAMAC algorithm in a content-delivery network unifies the MAC schemes adopted by all helpers in the plane that transmit a same content file. Consequently, all their signals can be combined at any user requesting the file before demodulation and decoding, suppressing interference in the case without MAC alignment.

C. Signal-and-Interference Distributions in Wireless Networks

Due to its tractability and availability of many analytical tools, the theory of PPP has been widely applied in modelling and analyzing wireless networks (see e.g., the survey in [9]). The

network-performance analysis, typically, the analysis of outage probability involves characterizing the distributions of shot noise process representing random signals and interference [9]. Given a PPP Φ in the plane, a shot noise process is defined as the following summation over Φ :

$$S(\Phi) = \begin{cases} \sum_{X \in \Phi} h_X |X|^{-\alpha}, & \text{with fading,} \\ \sum_{X \in \Phi} |X|^{-\alpha}, & \text{without fading} \end{cases}$$
(1)

where the fading coefficients $\{h_X\}$ are random variables (r.v.s) independent of Φ , the path-loss exponent α is a positive constant and |X| measures the distance between X and the origin. For networks without cooperative transmissions, the outage probability usually depends on the distribution of a single shot noise process e.g., its Laplace function in the case of Rayleigh fading [18], [19]. On the other hand, for networks with cooperative transmissions, the outageprobability analysis involves studying the ratio of two shot noise processes, called a *shotnoise ratio*, modelling the signal-to-interference ratio [20]–[23]. One relatively simple model of cooperative transmission is to divide the plane into two non-overlapping regions with respect to the typical user: one is the near-field region containing associated transmitters and the farfield region containing interferers [21]–[23]. The transmitters and interferers are subsets of a homogeneous PPP. As a result, the outage-probability analysis in [21]–[23] reduces to analyzing a shot-noise ratio arising from two *non-homonegeous* PPPs. Due to its intractability, prior work resorts to asymptotic analysis [21], approximation [22], or presenting complex expression requiring numerical evaluation [23].

In this work, for a content-delivery network adopting CAMAC, it is found that the contentdelivery probability depends on the distribution of a shot-noise ratio generated by two *homogeneous* PPPs Φ_1 and Φ_2 , with densities λ_1 and λ_2 , denoted as $R(\lambda_1, \lambda_2) = \frac{S(\Phi_1)}{S(\Phi_2)}$. The distribution remains unknown in the literature. We tackle the open problem by deriving the distribution of $R(\Phi_1, \Phi_2)$ by applying the theory of stable distribution as elaborated shortly.

D. Contributions and Organization

We consider a distributed content-delivery network where content helpers are distributed as a homogeneous PPP in the horizontal plane. There exists a content database comprising a fixed number of files. They are requested by a typical user with varying probabilities, forming the *popularity distribution*. For simplicity, it is assumed that due to limited storage, each helper

randomly caches a single file based on the popularity distribution.¹ In the content-delivery phase, all helpers transmit their cached files to associated users requesting the files. Our analysis focuses on a typical user at the origin, associated with the nearest helper having the file requested by the user. We measure the network performance by the content-delivery probability that the typical user receives the desirable file with the received SIR exceeding a given threshold.

Given the network model, the contributions of the current work are summarized as follows.

- (CAMAC Algorithm) The first contribution of the work is the idea of spatial MAC alignment for delivering identical content and its realization by designing the following CAMAC algorithm. There exists a pre-determined mapping from the files in a given content database to a set of available MAC schemes. The mapping is known to all helpers and used by them to adapt the MAC scheme to their transmitted files, thereby realizing the said idea.
- 2) (Shot-Noise Ratio) The second contribution of the work is the tractable analysis of the distribution of a shot-noise ratio and the application of the results to derive the content-delivery probability. Consider a shot-noise ratio R(λ₁, λ₂) generated by two independent homogeneous PPPs Φ₁ and Φ₂, with densities λ₁ and λ₂ as defined in (1) of the case without fading. First we derive the *complementary cumulative distribution function* (CCDF) of R(λ₁, λ₂) by converting the function to the zero-crossing probability of a *differential shot noise process*, defined as the difference between two shot noise processes, which is proved to be subject to the class of stable distribution. Then applying the theory of stable distribution leads to the desirable CCDF in a closed form:

$$\Pr\left(R\left(\lambda_{1},\lambda_{2}\right)>x\right)=\frac{1}{2}+\frac{\alpha}{2\pi}\arctan\left(\left(-1+\frac{2}{1+\frac{\lambda_{2}}{\lambda_{1}}x^{\frac{2}{\alpha}}}\right)\tan\frac{\pi}{\alpha}\right).$$
(2)

Next, by applying Campbell's theorem [24] and the series form of the shot noise distribution [25], we derive the Laplace function of the shot-noise ratio in a series form:

$$\mathsf{E}\left[e^{-sR(\lambda_1,\lambda_2)}\right] = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{m+1}}{\Gamma(1-m_{\alpha}^2)} \left(\frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_1}s^{-\frac{2}{\alpha}}\right)^m.$$
(3)

3) (Content-Delivery Probability) Using transmitted files as random marks, the helper process can be decomposed into a set of homogeneous PPPs, each corresponding to a particular

¹It is straightforward to extend the current analysis to the case where helpers with large storage and cache the whole database. In this case, the typical user is always associated with the nearest helper, which may not hold in the case we consider. As a result, the content-delivery probability derived in this work provides a lower bound for that in the case of helpers with large storage. file. Due to CAMAC, the typical user's data signal combines all incident signals for the PPP marked by the requested file and interference power sums over all PPPs marked by other files. As a result, the content-delivery probability is a distribution function of a shot-noise ratio representing the received SIR. Applying the preceding results shot-noise ratio yields simple forms for the content-delivery probability. An approximation of the probability is also derived to yield useful insight relating it with the popularity distribution. Furthermore, the gain in the content-delivery probability with respect to the conventional case without CAMAC is mathematically shown to increase with the skewness in the popularity distribution.

The remainder of the paper is organized as follows. The mathematical model and metric are described in Section II. The design of content adaptive modulation and coding algorithm are proposed in Section III. The distribution of shot-noise ratio is provided in Section IV followed by the analysis of content-delivery probability in Section V. Spatial alignment gain is discussed in Section VI. Simulation results are presented in Section VII followed by concluding remarks in Section VIII. The appendix contains the proofs of propositions and lemmas.

II. MATHEMATICAL MODEL AND METRIC

Consider a distributed content-delivery network where content helpers are modeled as a homogeneous Poisson point process (PPP) in the horizontal plane, denoted as Φ with density λ . Let $\mathcal{D} \triangleq \{\mathcal{F}_1, \mathcal{F}_2, \dots, \mathcal{F}_N\}$ denote a content database comprising N files and each of them with a uniform size. The popularity distribution for the files are denoted as $\{a_n\}$ with $a_n \in [0, 1]$ corresponding to \mathcal{F}_n and $\sum_{n=1}^N a_n = 1$. To simplify analysis, it is assumed that the storage of each helper is limited so that it randomly caches a single file based on the popularity distribution, corresponding to the case where helpers are mobiles (see Footnote 1 for an extension). Each user randomly generates a request for a particular file based on the popularity distribution and thus is associated with the nearest helper caching the desirable content. Consider an arbitrary time slot. All helpers transmit their cached files. Using the transmitted files as marks, the helper process Φ can be decomposed into N homogeneous PPPs $\Phi_1, \Phi_2, \dots, \Phi_N$ with Φ_n corresponds to \mathcal{F}_n and having the density $a_n\lambda$. For analyzing the content-delivery probability, based on Slivnyak's Theorem [26], it is sufficient to consider a typical user at the origin, with the request denoted as $D_0 \in \mathcal{D}$. The network spatial distribution is illustrated in Fig. 1.



Figure 1: Spatial distribution of a content delivery network adapting CAMAC (see Section III).

The channel model is described as follows. All channels are assumed to be narrow-band and characterized by path loss and Rayleigh fading. Consider an arbitrary time slot. The signal transmitted by a transmitter at the location X, denoted as Q_X , is received by the typical receiver as $H_X |X|^{-\frac{\alpha}{2}} Q_X$, where |X| measures the Euclidean propagation distance, α denotes the fixed path-loss exponent, and the fading coefficient H_X is a $\mathcal{CN}(0,1)$ r.v. All fading coefficients are i.i.d. Consider an interference limited network where noise is negligible. Then the total received signal at the typical user can be written as:

$$Y_0 = \sum_{n=1}^{N} \sum_{X \in \Phi_n} H_X |X|^{-\frac{\alpha}{2}} Q_X.$$
 (4)

The signal is decomposed into data signal and interference in the next section based on the CAMAC algorithm. Let SIR denotes the resultant SIR for the typical user. Conditioned on $D_0 = \mathcal{F}_k$, the conditional content-delivery probability is denoted as $P_d(\mathcal{F}_k)$ and written as $P_d(\mathcal{F}_k) = \Pr(SIR > \theta_k \mid D_0 = \mathcal{F}_k)$, with θ_k is a given threshold specifying the criterion on the received signal for successful delivery of \mathcal{F}_k . Then the content-delivery probability $P_d = \sum_{k=1}^N a_k P_d(\mathcal{F}_k)$.

III. CONTENT ADAPTIVE MODULATION AND CODING

A. CAMAC: Algorithm Design

The design of the CAMAC algorithm is simple and comprises two components: one is a mapping from files in a content database to a given number of MAC schemes and the other one

is the helper architecture for adapting the MAC scheme using the mapping, which are illustrated in Fig. 2. Consider the content-MAC mapping in Fig. 2(a). The assignment of a particular MAC scheme to a given file depends on the the acceptable MAC rate given the quality requirement and the size of the content. Typically, the set of available MAC schemes is much smaller than the content database and thus each MAC scheme can be assigned to multiple files. The optimal design of the mapping depends on specific content characteristics and system parameters, which is outside the scope of the current work. Next, consider the helper architecture for implementing CAMAC as shown in Fig. 2(b). All helpers agree on an uniform content-MAC mapping which is determined by a centralized control station prior to the content-delivery phase. During content delivery, each helper uses the mapping to select a MAC scheme for modulating and coding a particular transmitted file. This spatially aligns the MAC schemes of all helpers transmitting identical content without online coordination or message exchange. As a result, as illustrated in Fig. 1, the signals transmitted by all helpers for sending an identical file are combined at any receiver requesting the file as the input to the demodulator and decoder, increasing signal power and reducing interference.

For tractability, two assumptions related to CAMAC are made for the network performance analysis in the sequel.

Assumption 1 (Distribution of Transmitted Signals). The signals transmitted by helpers for sending an identical file are identical and follow the CN(0,1) distribution. Any two transmitted signals carrying different files are independent CN(0,1) r.v.s.

Assumption 2 (Effective Frequency-Flat Channel). The effective multi-path channel (see Fig. 1) from helpers sending a particular file to the typical user who needs the file is *frequency flat*.

The assumption corresponds to the case where the path-loss exponent is relatively high such that the typical user receives only significant signals from nearby helpers. Consequently, the differentiation in the propagation delay in the signal paths is small and does not induce frequency selectivity. Otherwise, channel equalization is needed at the typical user prior to detection.

B. CAMAC: Signal and Interference

Given the CAMAC algorithm, the expressions for signal and interference and their distributions are obtained shortly to facilitate the subsequent network-performance analysis.



(a) Mapping between content and MAC schemes.



(b) Architecture of a content helper.

Figure 2: The design of content adaptive modulation and coding (CAMAC).

Consider the case where the typical user requests \mathcal{F}_k . Given CAMAC and Assumptions 1 and 2, conditioned on $D_0 = \mathcal{F}_k$, the signal can be rewritten from (4) as

$$Y_0(\mathcal{F}_k) = \left(\sum_{X \in \Phi_k} H_X |X|^{-\frac{\alpha}{2}}\right) Q_k + \sum_{n \neq k} \sum_{Z \in \Phi_n} \left(H_Z |Z|^{-\frac{\alpha}{2}}\right) Q_n \tag{5}$$

where the first and second terms correspond to (data) signal and interference, respectively. Then the signal and interference power, denoted as $S_0(\mathcal{F}_k)$ and $I_0(\mathcal{F}_k)$, respectively, can be written as

$$S_{0}(\mathcal{F}_{k}) = \left| \sum_{X \in \Phi_{k}} H_{X} |X|^{-\frac{\alpha}{2}} \right|^{2}, \quad I_{0}(\mathcal{F}_{k}) = \sum_{n \neq k} \left| \sum_{Z \in \Phi_{n}} H_{Z} |Z|^{-\frac{\alpha}{2}} \right|^{2}.$$
 (6)

Since $\{H_X, H_Z\}$ are i.i.d. complex Gaussian r.v.s, the terms $\sum_{X \in \Phi_k} H_X |X|^{-\frac{\alpha}{2}}$ and $\sum_{Z \in \Phi_n} H_Z |Z|^{-\frac{\alpha}{2}}$ are distributed as $\mathcal{CN}(0, \sum_{X \in \Phi_k} |X|^{-\alpha})$ and $\mathcal{CN}(0, \sum_{Z \in \Phi_n} |Z|^{-\alpha})$, respectively. It follows that the signal power $S_0(\mathcal{F}_k)$ follows the exponential distribution with mean $\sum_{X \in \Phi_k} |X|^{-\alpha}$. Moreover,

the interference power can be written as $I_0(\mathcal{F}_k) = \sum_{n \neq k} I_n$ where I_n also follows the exponential distribution but with mean $\sum_{Z \in \Phi_n} |Z|^{-\alpha}$. Equivalently,

$$S_0(\mathcal{F}_k) \sim h_k \sum_{X \in \Phi_k} |X|^{-\alpha}, \quad I_n \sim h_n \sum_{Z \in \Phi_n} |Z|^{-\alpha}$$
(7)

where the operator \sim denotes the equivalence in distribution, and $\{h_k, h_n\}$ are i.i.d. exponential r.v.s with unit mean. Using these results, the conditional content-delivery probability defined in Section II can be rewritten as

$$P_d(\mathcal{F}_k) = \Pr\left(\frac{S_0(\mathcal{F}_k)}{\sum_{n \neq k} I_n} > \theta_k\right)$$
(8)

where $S_0(\mathcal{F}_k)$ and I_n are distributed as in (7).

IV. DISTRIBUTION OF SHOT-NOISE RATIO

One can see from (8) the content-delivery probability is closely related to a process of shotnoise ratio. For the purpose of deriving the probability, we analyze the distribution of the shotnoise ratio $R(\lambda_1, \lambda_2)$ defined in Section I-C. Specifically, in this section, the CCDF in (2) and the Laplace function in (3) are derived. For ease of notation, they are represented by $\overline{F}(x; \lambda_1, \lambda_2)$ with x > 0 and $\mathcal{L}_{R(\lambda_1, \lambda_2)}(s)$ with any complex s for which the result converges, respectively.

The derivation approach is as follows. We define a new process called a *differential shot* noise process as the difference between two independent shot noise process $S(\Phi_1)$ and $S(\Phi_2)$ as defined in (1) without fading. Mathematically, given a constant $x \in \mathbb{R}^+$, the differential shot noise process, denoted as $M(x; \lambda_1, \lambda_2)$, is defined as

$$M(x;\lambda_1,\lambda_2) = \sum_{X \in \Phi_1} |X|^{-\alpha} - x \sum_{Z \in \Phi_2} |Z|^{-\alpha}.$$
 (9)

Then the CCDF of $R(\lambda_1, \lambda_2)$ is equivalent to the zero-crossing probability of $M(x; \lambda_1, \lambda_2)$:

$$\overline{F}(x;\lambda_1,\lambda_2) = \Pr\left(M(x) > 0\right).$$
(10)

It is proved in Section IV-A that the distribution of $M(x; \lambda_1, \lambda_2)$ belongs to the class of *stable distribution*. Then using this factor and by exploiting the equivalence in (10), the theory of stable distribution is applied in Section IV-B to derive the desired distribution functions for the shot-noise ratio $R(\lambda_1, \lambda_2)$.

A. Distribution of a Differential Shot-Noise Process

In this section, the characteristic function for the differential shot noise process $M(x; \lambda_1, \lambda_2)$ is first derived. Comparing the function with that for the class of stable distribution leads to the conclusion that the process belongs to the class. The details are as follows.

As the concept of stable distribution is repeatedly used in this and next sub-sections, it is useful to provide the definition (see e.g., [27]) as follows.

Definition 1 (Stable Distribution). A r.v. X is *stable* in the broad sense if for any positive constants a and b, there exist some positive c and some $d \in \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$aX_1 + bX_2 = cX + d \tag{11}$$

where X_1 and X_2 are independent and identically distributed r.v.s having the same distribution as X. If (11) holds with d = 0, then X is strictly stable or stable in the narrow sense.

The definition implies that the distribution shape of X is preserved under a linear operation with positive parameters. The characteristic function and some useful properties of the class of stable distribution are provided in Appendix A.

It is well known that a shot noise process $S(\Phi)$ with $\alpha > 2$ belongs to the class of stable distribution [25]. However, it is unknown that if the distribution of $M(x; \lambda_1, \lambda_2)$ is also stable. The answer is affirmative as shown in Proposition 1. To prove the result, first, the characteristic function of $M(x; \lambda_1, \lambda_2)$, defined as $G(t; \lambda_1, \lambda_2) = \mathsf{E}\left[e^{jtM(x;\lambda_1,\lambda_2)}\right]$ with $t \in \mathbb{R}$, is derived as follows.

Lemma 1 (Characteristic Function of Differential Shot Noise). Given $\alpha > 2$, the characteristic function of the differential shot noise process $M(x; \lambda_1, \lambda_2)$ satisfies

$$\log G(t) = -\left(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 x^{\frac{2}{\alpha}}\right) \pi \Gamma\left(1 - \frac{2}{\alpha}\right) \cos\frac{\pi}{\alpha} |t|^{\frac{2}{\alpha}} \left(1 - j\operatorname{sgn}(t)\frac{\lambda_1 - \lambda_2 x^{\frac{2}{\alpha}}}{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 x^{\frac{2}{\alpha}}} \tan\frac{\pi}{\alpha}\right)$$
(12)

where the sign function sgn(t) follows the definition in (39).

Proof: See Appendix B.

Comparing the derived characteristic function with the Form-A characteristic function for stable distribution given in Lemma 7 in Appendix A yields the following result.

Proposition 1 (Stable Distribution of Differential Shot Noise). The process of differential shot noise, $M(x; \lambda_1, \lambda_2)$ belongs to the class of stable distribution:

$$M(x;\lambda_1,\lambda_2) \sim S_A(\delta,\beta_A,0,\mu_A) \tag{13}$$

where S_A represents the class of stable distribution in Form A as defined in Appendix A and the parameters are given as:

$$\delta = \frac{2}{\alpha}, \quad \beta_A = \frac{\lambda_1 - \lambda_2 x^{\frac{2}{\alpha}}}{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 x^{\frac{2}{\alpha}}}, \quad \mu_A = \left(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 x^{\frac{2}{\alpha}}\right) \pi \Gamma\left(1 - \frac{2}{\alpha}\right) \cos\frac{\pi}{\alpha}.$$
 (14)

By setting x = 0, the stable distribution of $M(0; \lambda_1, \lambda_2)$ reduces to a shot noise process, $S_A\left(\frac{2}{\alpha}, 1, 0, \lambda_1 \pi \Gamma\left(1 - \frac{2}{\alpha}\right)\right)$ as mentioned in [25].

B. Distribution of a Shot-Noise Ratio

1) CCDF of a shot-noise ratio: The CCDF of a shot-noise ratio is derived by exploiting the equivalence in (10) and applying the stable-distribution properties of the differential shot-noise process $M(x; \lambda_1, \lambda_2)$ as discussed in the preceding sub-section.

As shown in Proposition 1, $M(x; \lambda_1, \lambda_2)$ has the stable distribution $S_A(\delta, \beta_A, 0, \mu_A)$. To apply the properties of Form-B stable distribution with a normalized parameter $\mu_B = 1$ in Lemma 8 in Appendix A, the distribution of $M(x; \lambda_1, \lambda_2)$ can be converted into Form B by using the parametric relations in (41) and (42) in Appendix A. Moreover, it is necessary to scaling the process $M(x; \lambda_1, \lambda_2)$ to have a normalized parameter $\mu_B = 1$. Let the resultant process be denoted as $\widetilde{M}(x; \lambda_1, \lambda_2)$. Its distribution is derived as shown in the following lemma.

Lemma 2 (Normalized Differential Shot Noise). The distribution of the normalize shot-noise process, $\widetilde{M}(x; \lambda_1, \lambda_2)$, and its relation with that of the original process $M(x; \lambda_1, \lambda_2)$ are given as follows:

$$\widetilde{M}(x;\lambda_1,\lambda_2) \sim S_B\left(\frac{2}{\alpha},\beta_B,0,1\right)$$
(15)

$$M(x;\lambda_1,\lambda_2) \sim \mu_B^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} \widetilde{M}(x;\lambda_1,\lambda_2)$$
(16)

where S_B denotes Form B of stable distribution as specified in Lemma 7 and the parameters are given as:

$$\beta_B = \frac{\alpha}{\pi} \arctan\left(\frac{\lambda_1 - \lambda_2 x^{\frac{2}{\alpha}}}{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 x^{\frac{2}{\alpha}}} \tan \frac{\pi}{\alpha}\right), \quad \mu_B = \frac{\left(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 x^{\frac{2}{\alpha}}\right) \pi \Gamma\left(1 - \frac{2}{\alpha}\right) \cos \frac{\pi}{\alpha}}{\cos \frac{\pi\beta_B}{\alpha}}.$$
 (17)

The proof is given in Appendix C. It follows from Lemma 2 that the zero-crossing probability for $M(x; \lambda_1, \lambda_2)$ is equal to that for the normalized counterpart $\widetilde{M}(x; \lambda_1, \lambda_2)$, which is given in Lemma 8 in Appendix A. Combining this result and the equivalence in (10) yields the CCDF for the shot-noise ratio as elaborated below.

Proposition 2 (CCDF of a Shot-Noise Ratio). Given $\alpha > 2$, the CCDF of the process of shot-noise ratio, $R(\lambda_1, \lambda_2)$, is given as

$$\bar{F}(x;\lambda_1,\lambda_2) = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{\alpha}{2\pi} \arctan\left(\left(-1 + \frac{2}{1 + \frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_1}x^{\frac{2}{\alpha}}}\right) \tan\frac{\pi}{\alpha}\right).$$
(18)

Since \arctan is a monotone increasing function, we can see from the above result that $\overline{F}(x; \lambda_1, \lambda_2)$ monotonically decreases with the growing ratio λ_2/λ_1 besides x. In other words, the function does not depend on the exact values of the densities. For the extreme cases of x = 0 and $x \to \infty$, the expression for $\overline{F}(x; \lambda_1, \lambda_2)$ reduces to 1 and 0, respectively, since the shot-noise ratio is always positive and a proper r.v.

2) Laplace function of a shot-noise ratio: It is straightforward to derive the Laplace function of a shot-noise process $S(\Phi)$ in (1) by applying Campbell's Theorem (see e.g., [28]). This is not true for the shot-noise ratio, $R(\lambda_1, \lambda_2)$, mainly due to a shot-noise process in its denominator. Specifically, applying Campbell's Theorem reduces the two shot-noise processes in the characteristic function of $R(\lambda_1, \lambda_2)$ to be only one in denominator:

$$\mathcal{L}_{R(\lambda_1,\lambda_2)}(s) = \mathsf{E}\left[\prod_{X \in \Phi_1} e^{-\frac{s|X|^{-\alpha}}{\sum_{Z \in \Phi_2} |Z|^{-\alpha}}}\right]$$
$$= \mathsf{E}\left[e^{-\lambda_1 \pi \Gamma\left(1 - \frac{2}{\alpha}\right)\left(\frac{s}{\sum_{Z \in \Phi_2} |Z|^{-\alpha}}\right)^{\frac{2}{\alpha}}}\right].$$
(19)

The current approach for deriving the function in closed form from (19) relies on applying the following expansion of the *probability distribution function* (PDF) of a shot-noise process [25]:

$$f_{S(\Phi)}(x) = \frac{1}{\pi x} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{m+1} \Gamma(1+m\frac{2}{\alpha}) \sin \pi m\frac{2}{\alpha}}{m!} \left(\frac{\lambda \pi \Gamma\left(1-\frac{2}{\alpha}\right)}{x^{\frac{2}{\alpha}}}\right)^{m}.$$
 (20)

The result is given in the following proposition.

Proposition 3 (Laplace Function of a Shot-Noise Ratio). Consider a shot-noise ratio $R(\lambda_1, \lambda_2)$ generated by two independent homogeneous PPPs Φ_1 and Φ_2 with density λ_1 and λ_2 separately. The Laplace function of $R(\lambda_1, \lambda_2)$ can be written in the following series form:

$$\mathcal{L}_{R(\lambda_1,\lambda_2)}(s) = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{m+1}}{\Gamma(1-m_{\alpha}^2)} \left(\frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_1} s^{-\frac{2}{\alpha}}\right)^m.$$
(21)

The proof is provided in Appendix D.

Similar to the result in Proposition 2, the above Laplace function depends on the ratio λ_2/λ_1 but not the actual values of densities. The case of highly asymmetric shot-noise densities in $R(\lambda_1, \lambda_2)$ corresponds to $\lambda_2/\lambda_1 \rightarrow 0$. For this case, the Laplace function has the following simple asymptotic form:

$$\mathcal{L}_{R(\lambda_1,\lambda_2)}\left(s\right) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(1-\frac{2}{\alpha})} \frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_1} s^{-\frac{2}{\alpha}} + O\left(\left(\frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_1}\right)^2\right), \qquad \frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_1} \to 0$$

that is a linear function of the ratio λ_2/λ_1 .

V. CONTENT-DELIVERY PROBABILITY

In the preceding section, we derive the results concerning the distribution of a shot-noise ratio. In this section, they are applied to analyze the content-delivery probability.

A. Two Forms of Content-Delivery Probability

In this sub-section, the conditional (content)-delivery probability defined in Section II is derived in two forms. Note that the expectation of the conditional probability with respect to the content-popularity distribution yields the delivery probability.

First, the conditional delivery probability is converted into the distribution function of a shotnoise ratio so as to leverage the results derived in the preceding section. One can see from (8) that the conditional probability is not exactly the distribution of the shot-noise ratio but one with a weighted sum of (N - 1) shot-noise processes in the denominator. However, the problem can be solved by converting the sum into a single shot-noise process by exploiting the fundamental characteristic of the shot-noise which is proved to be stable. From Definition 1, stable distribution is invariant to linear operations such as scaling and summation. Consequently, the said weighted sum, corresponding to the total interference power for the typical user, follows the same stable distribution as a single shot-noise process as shown below. Lemma 3 (Normalized Distributions of Signal and Interference). The signal and interference power for the typical user, as given in (7), are distributed as scaled versions of shot-noise processes with unit density:

$$S_0(\mathcal{F}_k) \sim h_k(a_k\lambda)^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} S(\bar{\Phi}_1), \quad \sum_{n \neq k} I_n \sim \left(\sum_{n \neq k} h_n^{\frac{2}{\alpha}} a_n \lambda\right)^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} S(\bar{\Phi}_2)$$

where $S(\cdot)$ is a shot noise process without fading as defined in (1), and $\overline{\Phi}_1$ and $\overline{\Phi}_2$ are two independent homogeneous PPPs with unit density.

The proof is provided in Appendix E.

Define a normalized shot-noise ratio, denoted as \bar{R} , as one generated by $\bar{\Phi}_1$ and $\bar{\Phi}_2$. It follows from Lemma 3 and (8) that the conditional delivery probability can be written in terms of \bar{R} as:

$$P_d(\mathcal{F}_k) = \Pr\left(\bar{R}\frac{h_k a_k^{\frac{\alpha}{2}}}{g_k^{\frac{\alpha}{2}}} > \theta_k\right)$$
(22)

where the set of random variables $\{g_1, g_2, \dots, g_N\}$ are defined by $g_k = \sum_{n \neq k} a_n h_n^{\frac{2}{\alpha}}$. Using the expression, the conditional delivery probability is derived in two forms as follows.

The first form, called the *expectation form*, follows from substituting the CCDF of a shot-noise ratio as given in Proposition 2 into (22), and the result is obtained as follows.

Theorem 1 (Content-Delivery Probability: Expectation Form). Given that the request by the typical user is $D_0 = \mathcal{F}_k$, the conditional delivery probability is

$$P_d(\mathcal{F}_k) = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{\alpha}{2\pi} \mathsf{E}_{h_k, g_k} \left[\arctan\left(\left(1 - \frac{2}{1 + \left(\frac{h_k}{\theta_k}\right)^{\frac{2}{\alpha}} \frac{a_k}{g_k}} \right) \tan\frac{\pi}{\alpha} \right) \right]$$
(23)

and the content-delivery probability is $P_d = \sum_{k=1}^N a_k P_d(\mathcal{F}_k)$.

Let the variable $h_k^{\frac{2}{\alpha}}a_k$ be referred to as the *(fading) weighted popularity* for \mathcal{F}_k . Then the ratio $\frac{h_k^{\frac{2}{\alpha}}a_k}{g_k}$, called the *weighted popularity ratio*, quantifies the weighted popularity of \mathcal{F}_k with respect to that for other files. One can observe from the result in Theorem 1 that the conditional delivery probability for a particular file is a *monotone increasing* function of the corresponding weighted popularity ratio since the function $\arctan is$ monotone increasing. In addition, the conditional probability reduces with an increasing SIR threshold θ_k .

For the special case of α , the expression for the conditional content delivery probability can be simplified as follows.

Corollary 1 (Content-Delivery Probability for $\alpha = 4$). For the path-loss exponent $\alpha = 4$, the conditional delivery probability can be simplified as

$$P_d(\mathcal{F}_k) = 1 - \frac{2}{\pi} \mathsf{E}_{h_k, g_k} \left[\arctan\left(\frac{g_k}{a_k} \sqrt{\frac{\theta_k}{h_k}}\right) \right].$$
(24)

The proof is provided in Appendix F.

Next, an alternative form of the conditional delivery probability can be obtained by using the Laplace function of a shot-noise ratio in the series form as given in Proposition 3. To this end, it follows from (22) and with the fact that h_k is an exponential r.v., the conditional delivery probability can be written as

$$P_{d}(\mathcal{F}_{k}) = \mathsf{E}_{g_{k}} \left[e^{-\theta_{k} \left(\frac{g_{k}}{a_{k}}\right)^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} \bar{R}^{-1}} \right]$$
$$= \mathsf{E}_{g_{k}} \left[\mathcal{L}_{\bar{R}^{-1}} \left(\theta_{k} \left(\frac{g_{k}}{a_{k}}\right)^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} \right) \right]$$

Substituting the result in Proposition 3 yields

$$P_d(\mathcal{F}_k) = \mathsf{E}_{g_k} \left[\sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{m+1}}{\Gamma(1-m_{\alpha}^2)} \left(\frac{a_k}{\theta_k^{\frac{2}{\alpha}} g_k} \right)^m \right].$$
(25)

Since $P_d(\mathcal{F}_k)$ converges, interchanging the order of summation and expectation in the above expression is allowed according to Fubini's theorem, which leads to the following result.

Theorem 2 (Content-Delivery Probability: Series Form). Given that the request by the typical user is $D_0 = \mathcal{F}_k$, the conditional delivery probability is

$$P_d(\mathcal{F}_k) = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{m+1}}{\Gamma(1-m_{\alpha}^2)} \mathsf{E}\left[g_k^{-m}\right] \left(\frac{a_k}{\theta_k^{\frac{2}{\alpha}}}\right)^m \tag{26}$$

and the content-delivery probability is $P_d = \sum_{k=1}^N a_k P_d(\mathcal{F}_k)$.

To relate the results in the current theorem and Theorem 1, consider the case where the SIR threshold θ_k is large. As a result, the conditional delivery probability in Theorem 2 can be approximated as

$$P_{d}(\mathcal{F}_{k}) \approx \frac{1}{\theta_{k}^{\frac{2}{\alpha}} \Gamma(1 - \frac{2}{\alpha})} \mathsf{E}\left[\frac{a_{k}}{g_{k}}\right], \qquad \theta_{k} \gg 1$$
$$\geq \frac{\sin\left(\pi\frac{2}{\alpha}\right)}{\pi\frac{2}{\alpha}} \theta_{k}^{-\frac{2}{\alpha}} \frac{a_{k}}{1 - a_{k}} \tag{27}$$

where the last step is from Jensen's inequality and with the fact that $\Gamma(1-z)\Gamma(z) = \pi/\sin(\pi z)$ for non-integer z. It can be observed that $P_d(\mathcal{F}_k)$ linearly increases with the growing ratio $\frac{a_k}{1-a_k}$ that is similar to the weighted popularity ratio in the remark on Theorem 1.

B. Bounding the Content-Delivery Probability

Bounds on the conditional-delivery probabilities whose expressions are simpler than the exact ones are derived in this sub-section. The main idea is to consider the following two modified forms of the SIR in (28), denoted as SIR' and SIR", and study their distributions:

$$\mathsf{SIR}'(\mathcal{F}_k) = \frac{h_k \sum_{X \in \Phi_k} |X|^{-\alpha}}{\sum_{z \in \Phi \setminus \Phi_k} h_z |Z|^{-\alpha}}, \qquad \mathsf{SIR}''(\mathcal{F}_k) = \frac{h_k \sum_{X \in \Phi_k} |X|^{-\alpha}}{h_{k'} \sum_{z \in \Phi \setminus \Phi_k} |Z|^{-\alpha}}.$$
(28)

They differ from SIR in (8) in the locations of fading coefficients. One can interpret SIR' and SIR" as the SIRs corresponding to two artificial cases: the former without MAC alignment in the interference and the latter having uniform MAC through out all interference. Their distributions are related to those of the actual SIR as shown below.

Lemma 4 (Bounding the SIR). The distribution of the SIR in (8) can be bounded as

$$\Pr(\mathsf{SIR}'(\mathcal{F}_k) > \theta_k) \le \Pr(\mathsf{SIR}(\mathcal{F}_k) \ge \theta_k) \le \Pr(\mathsf{SIR}''(\mathcal{F}_k) \ge \theta_k), \quad \forall k$$
(29)

where SIR' and SIR'' are defined in (28).

The proof is given in Appendix G. The expressions for the bounds in Lemma 5 can be obtained as shown below.

Lemma 5 (Modified SIRs). The distributions of the modified SIRs in (28) are give as

$$\Pr(\mathsf{SIR}'(\mathcal{F}_k) > x) = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{\alpha}{2\pi} \mathsf{E}_{h_k} \left[\arctan\left(\left(1 - \frac{2}{1 + \eta_k h_k^{\frac{2}{\alpha}}} \right) \tan \frac{\pi}{\alpha} \right) \right]$$
$$\Pr(\mathsf{SIR}''(\mathcal{F}_k) > x) = \frac{1}{1 + x^{\frac{2}{\alpha}} \left(\frac{1}{a_k} - 1 \right)}$$

where the constant $\eta_k = \frac{a_k}{(1-a_k)\Gamma(1+\frac{2}{\alpha})x^{\frac{2}{\alpha}}}$.

The proof is provided in Appendix H. Combining Lemmas 4 and 5 yields the following main result of this sub-section.

Theorem 3 (Bounding Content-Delivery Probability). Using the result from Lemma 4, conditional delivery probability is bounded by

$$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\alpha}{2\pi} \mathsf{E}_{h_k} \left[\arctan\left(\left(1 - \frac{2}{1 + \eta_k h_k^{\frac{2}{\alpha}}} \right) \tan \frac{\pi}{\alpha} \right) \right] \le P_d(\mathcal{F}_k) \le \frac{1}{1 + \theta_k^{\frac{2}{\alpha}} \left(\frac{1}{a_k} - 1 \right)}$$
(30)

where the constant $\eta_k = \frac{a_k}{(1-a_k)\Gamma(1+\frac{2}{\alpha})\theta_k \frac{2}{\alpha}}$.

Remark 1 (Skewed Popularity Distribution). For a sanity check, one can see that for a singularly popular file with $a_k \rightarrow 1$, both upper and lower bounds on the conditional delivery probability grow with a_k and converge to 1. Correspondingly, for a highly skewed popularity distribution, CAMAC effectively turns the network into one mostly broadcasting a single popular file, for which interference is negligible.

Last, following Corollary 2, the bounds in Theorem 3 can be further simplified for the special case of $\alpha = 4$ as follows.

Corollary 2 (Bounding Content-Delivery Probability for $\alpha = 4$). For the path-loss exponent $\alpha = 4$, the conditional delivery probability can be bounded as follows.

• Upper bound:

$$P_d(\mathcal{F}_k) \le \frac{1}{1 + \sqrt{\theta_k} \left(\frac{1}{a_k} - 1\right)}.$$
(31)

• Lower bound A:

$$P_d(\mathcal{F}_k) \ge \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} e^{\zeta_k} \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}, \zeta_k\right)$$

where the constant $\zeta_k = \frac{\pi \theta_k}{4} \left(\frac{1-a_k}{a_k} \right)^2$.

• Lower bound B:

$$P_d(\mathcal{F}_k) \ge 1 - \frac{2}{\pi} \arctan\left(\frac{\pi\sqrt{\theta_k}}{2}\left(\frac{1}{a_k} - 1\right)\right).$$

The proof is provided in Appendix I.

VI. SPATIAL ALIGNMENT GAIN

In this section, we attempt to quantify the network-performance gain of CAMAC with respect to the conventional case without using the algorithm. The (MAC) *spatial alignment gain*, denoted as G_{align} , is defined as the ratio of content-delivery probabilities between the current and the mentioned conventional case.

Consider the case with CAMAC. Simulation results (see Fig. 3) shows that the upper bound on the conditional delivery probability in Theorem 3 is sufficiently tight. Thus, we approximate the probability by the bound so as to simplify the analysis:

$$P_d(\mathcal{F}_k) \approx \frac{1}{1 + \theta_k^{\frac{2}{\alpha}} \left(\frac{1}{a_k} - 1\right)}.$$
(32)

Next, for the conventional case without CAMAC, the conditional delivery probability, denoted as $\tilde{P}_d(\mathcal{F}_k)$, is given as

$$\tilde{P}_d(\mathcal{F}_k) = \Pr\left(\frac{hr_k^{-\alpha}}{\sum_{X \in \Phi \setminus \{T_k\}} h_X |X|^{-\alpha}} > \theta_k\right)$$
(33)

where r_k is the distance between the typical user to the nearest helper T_k having \mathcal{F}_k . The procedure for deriving a closed-form expression for the above $\tilde{P}_d(\mathcal{F}_k)$ is standard in the literature for stochastic geometry, involving essentially deriving the Laplace function of a shot-noise process using Campbell's Theorem [24]. It is straightforward to modify the existing results e.g., [16, Lemma 3] to obtain the following lemma.

Lemma 6 (Content-Delivery Probability without CAMAC). For the conventional case without CAMAC, the conditional convent-delivery probability is given as

$$\tilde{P}_d(\mathcal{F}_k) = \frac{1}{1 + \mu\left(\theta_k, \alpha\right) + \theta_k^{\frac{2}{\alpha}} \frac{2\pi}{\alpha} \csc\left(\frac{2\pi}{\alpha}\right) \left(\frac{1}{a_k} - 1\right)}$$
(34)

where the function μ is defined as

$$\mu\left(\theta_{k},\alpha\right) = \int_{1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1 + \theta_{k}^{-1} x^{\frac{\alpha}{2}}} dx.$$
(35)

Since the scaling factor $\frac{2\pi}{\alpha} \csc\left(\frac{2\pi}{\alpha}\right) \ge 1$, it follows from the above result that

$$\tilde{P}_d(\mathcal{F}_k) \le \frac{1}{1 + \mu\left(\theta_k, \alpha\right) + \theta_k^{\frac{2}{\alpha}} \left(\frac{1}{a_k} - 1\right)}.$$
(36)

It is ready to analyze the spatial-alignment gain, G_{align} , defined earlier. Consider the scenario of a highly skewed popularity distribution, corresponding to $\gamma \gg 1$ and $\gamma \approx 0$, respectively. As a result, \mathcal{F}_1 is dominant with $a_1 \approx 1$ or equally popular as others with $a_1 \approx \frac{1}{N}$. Then the content-delivery probabilities can be approximated by the conditional probabilities for $D_0 = \mathcal{F}_1$: $P_d \approx P_d(\mathcal{F}_1)$ and $\tilde{P}_d \approx \tilde{P}_d(\mathcal{F}_1)$. Using the results in (32) and Lemma 6, the spatial-alignment gain is approximated as

$$G_{\text{align}} \approx 1 + \frac{\mu\left(\theta_k, \alpha\right)}{1 + \theta_k^{\frac{2}{\alpha}} \left(\frac{1}{a_1} - 1\right)}$$
(37)

One can see that the G_{align} grows with the popularity measure a_1 . As a_1 approaches 1, G_{align} converges to the limit of $1 + \mu(\theta_k, \alpha)$. This is the inverse of the limit of $\tilde{P}_d(\mathcal{F}_k)$ while that of $P_d(\mathcal{F}_k)$ is one. The implication is twofold. First, the network-performance gain due to CAMAC grows with the skewness of the popularity distribution. Second, given the highly skewed

distribution, a network with CAMAC operates in the noise-limited regime while a conventional network is interference limited.

VII. SIMULATION RESULTS

The default simulation settings are as follows unless specified otherwise. The content helpers are Poisson distributed with density $\lambda = 0.1$ and all SIR threshold are given as $\theta_k = 5$ for simplicity. The path-loss exponent is set as $\alpha = 3$ and 4 which corresponding to the general case and special case. For the popularity distribution, we adopt the widely used Zipf distribution with the content-popularity skewness $\gamma \in [0,3]$: $a_n = \frac{n^{-\gamma}}{\sum_{m=1}^{N} m^{-\gamma}}$ for all *n*. Last, the benchmarking case without CAMAC has the content-delivery probability given in (34).

Fig. 3 displays the curves of convent-delivery probability versus the content-popularity skewness for both the cases with and without CAMAC. Moreover, the derived bounds on the probability in Theorem 3 are also plotted for evaluating their tightness. One can observe that as the skewness increases, the delivery probability grows faster in the case with CAMAC than the conventional case. In particular, for skewness of 3, the spatial-alignment gain reaches about 6 and 3 for α equal to 3 and 4, respectively. The smaller gain for a larger path-loss exponent is due to that more severe propagation attention suppresses interference in the conventional case and thereby helps content delivery. However, the path-loss exponent has a negligible effect when CAMAC is used, for which the network is not interference limited. Next, it is observed that the upper bound and especially the lower bound derived in Theorem 3 are tight. For the case of $\alpha = 4$, there exist lower bounds A and B (see Corollary 2). The former is observed to be tighter than the latter that, however, is also capable of tracing the variation of delivery probability.

The number of files in the content-data base can affect content delivery probability as revealed in Fig. 4. When the content-popularity skewness is small, different files have comparable popularity. In this case, one can observe Fig. 4 that a smaller number of files amplifies the gain of CAMAC in terms of delivery probability due to larger set of signals aligned and combined by CAMAC and the corresponding reduction on interference. Nevertheless, the differentiation in delivery probability for varying the database size diminishes as the skewness growth. For this case, the popularity is concentrated in one or a few files regardless of the database size.

The approximation of the spatial alignment gain as derived in (37) is shown to be sufficiently accurate by comparing with the exact simulation results in Fig. 5. It is observed that the



(b) Path-loss exponent $\alpha = 4$

Figure 3: Comparisons of content delivery probability between the cases with and without CAMAC and evaluation of the derived bounds on the probability. The number of files is N = 50.

approximation is accurate throughout the considered range of skewness for different database sizes, even though deriving the result assumes the skewness being either high or low.

VIII. CONCLUDING REMARKS

In this work, we have proposed the idea of content adaptive modulation and coding (CAMAC) and quantify how much performance gain the idea can bring to a content delivery network. Through this work, we have shown that the spatial signal correlation in such a network can be exploited in simple ways to substantially enhance the reliability of content delivery. As the



Figure 4: The effect of the number of files on the convent-delivery probability.



Figure 5: The spatial alignment gain and its approximation versus the content-popularity skewness. The number of files is N = 5 or 500.

current work represents an initial study of CAMAC, the implementation of the design requires further research to address various practical issues. In particular, how to cope with the frequency selectivity in the effective channels induced by CAMAC. Moreover, how to optimize the content-MAC mapping based on different quality-of-service requirements for different types of content.

In the process of network-performance analysis using a stochastic-geometry model, we have solved an open problem of fining a tractable approach for analyzing the ratio of shot-noise processes. In general, the approach and the derived results can find other applications in studying general networks with cooperative transmissions beyond the current content delivery networks

APPENDIX

A. Some Useful Properties of Stable Distribution

The characteristic function for the class of stable distribution defined in Definition 1 can be expressed in two different forms as shown below [29].

Lemma 7 (Characteristic Function for Stable Distribution [29]). The logarithm of the characteristic function for a r.v. X belonging to the class of stable distribution can be written in different forms:

• Form A

$$\log \mathsf{E}\left[e^{jtX}\right] = \begin{cases} jt\mu_A\gamma_A - \mu_A \left|t\right|^{\delta} \left(1 - j\beta_A \operatorname{sgn}(t) \tan\frac{\pi\delta}{2}\right), & \delta \neq 1\\ jt\mu_A\gamma_A - \mu_A \left|t\right| \left(1 + j\beta_A\frac{2}{\pi} \operatorname{sgn}(t) \log\left|t\right|\right), & \delta = 1 \end{cases}$$
(38)

where the real parameters satisfy $\delta \in [0,2]$, $\beta_A[-1,1]$, $\gamma_A \in \mathbb{R}$, $\mu_A > 0$, and the sign function $\operatorname{sgn}(t)$ is defined as:

$$\operatorname{sgn}(t) = \begin{cases} 1, & t > 0 \\ 0, & t = 0 \\ -1, & t < 0. \end{cases}$$
(39)

• Form B

$$\log \mathsf{E}\left[e^{jtX}\right] = \begin{cases} jt\mu_B\gamma_B - \mu_B \left|t\right|^{\delta} \exp\left(-j\beta_B \frac{\pi}{2} \operatorname{sgn}(t)K(\delta)\right), & \delta \neq 1\\ jt\mu_B\gamma_B - \mu_B \left|t\right| \left(\frac{\pi}{2} + j\beta_B \operatorname{sgn}(t)\log\left|t\right|\right), & \delta = 1 \end{cases}$$
(40)

where the parameters satisfy the same constraints as for Form A and the function $K(\delta) = \delta - 1 + \operatorname{sgn}(1 - \delta)$.

For ease of notation, the class of stable distribution in Forms A and B are denoted as $S_A(\delta, \beta_A, \gamma_A, \mu_A)$ and $S_B(\delta, \beta_B, \gamma_B, \mu_B)$, respectively.

As shown in Lemma 7, a stable distribution is characterised by four parameters. The parameters γ and μ are the location (or shift) and scale parameters, respectively. On the other hand, δ and β essentially specify the shape of PDF. To be specific, δ is called the index of stability or characteristic exponent that is a measure of concentration; β is called the skewness parameter

that is a measure of asymmetry. By comparing Forms A and B in Lemma 7, the relations between their parameters are given as:

• For $\delta = 1$,

$$\beta_A = \beta_B, \quad \gamma_A = \frac{2\gamma_B}{\pi}, \quad \mu_A = \frac{\pi\mu_B}{2}.$$
 (41)

• For $\delta \neq 1$,

$$\begin{cases} \beta_A = \cot\left(\frac{\pi\delta}{2}\right) \tan\left(\frac{\pi\beta_B K(\delta)}{2}\right),\\ \gamma_A = \gamma_B \left(\cos\left(\frac{\pi\beta_B K(\delta)}{2}\right)\right)^{-1},\\ \mu_A = \mu_B \cos\left(\frac{\pi\beta_B K(\delta)}{2}\right). \end{cases}$$
(42)

For several special cases, the distribution function of a stable r.v. has simple forms as shown below.

Lemma 8 (Properties of Stable Distribution [29]). The distribution function of a stable r.v., X, is given for several special cases as follows.

1) If $X \sim S_B(\delta, \beta_B, 0, 1)$ and $\delta \neq 1$, then

$$\Pr(X < 0) = \frac{1}{2} \left(1 - \beta_B \frac{K(\delta)}{\delta} \right).$$
(43)

- 2) If $X \sim S_B(\delta, 1, 0, 1)$ and $\delta < 1$, then $\Pr(X < x) = 0$ for all x < 0.
- 3) If $X \sim S_B(\delta, -1, 0, 1)$ and $\delta < 1$, then $\Pr(X < x) = 1$ for all x > 0.

B. Proof of Lemma 1

The characteristic function can be written in the product form

$$\mathsf{E}\left[e^{jtM(x;\lambda_1,\lambda_2)}\right] = \mathsf{E}\left[e^{jt\sum_{X\in\Phi_1}|X|^{-\alpha}}\right] \times \mathsf{E}\left[e^{jt\left(-x\sum_{Z\in\Phi_2}|Z|^{-\alpha}\right)}\right].$$
(44)

The first term in (44) is the characteristic function of a shot noise process that is well known and given as (see e.g., [24])

$$\mathsf{E}\left[e^{jt\sum_{X\in\Phi_1}|X|^{-\alpha}}\right] = \exp\left(j\lambda_1\pi t\int_0^\infty x^{-\frac{2}{\alpha}}e^{jtx}dx\right) = e^{-\lambda_1\pi\Gamma\left(1-\frac{2}{\alpha}\right)(-jt)^{\frac{2}{\alpha}}}.$$
(45)

Similarly, the second term in (44) is obtained as

$$\mathsf{E}\left[e^{jt\left(-x\sum_{Z\in\Phi_{2}}|Z|^{-\alpha}\right)}\right] = e^{-\lambda_{2}\pi\Gamma\left(1-\frac{2}{\alpha}\right)(jtx)^{\frac{2}{\alpha}}}.$$
(46)

Substituting (45) and (46) into (44) lead to the following expression for the characteristic function:

$$G(t;\lambda_1,\lambda_2) = e^{-\lambda_1 \pi \Gamma \left(1-\frac{2}{\alpha}\right)(-jt)^{\frac{2}{\alpha}}} \times e^{-\lambda_2 \pi \Gamma \left(1-\frac{2}{\alpha}\right)(jtx)^{\frac{2}{\alpha}}}.$$
(47)

Using the elementary identities $j = e^{j\frac{\pi}{2}}$ and $e^{j\frac{\pi}{\alpha}} = \cos \frac{\pi}{\alpha} + j \sin \frac{\pi}{\alpha}$, the expression can be rewritten in the desired form in the lemma statement.

C. Proof of Lemma 2

Using Proposition 1 and Lemma 7 and parametric relations in (42) in Appendix A, the characteristic function of $M(x; \lambda_1, \lambda_2)$ is given as

$$\mathsf{E}\left[e^{jtM(x;\lambda_1,\lambda_2)}\right] = e^{-\mu_B|t|^{\frac{2}{\alpha}}\exp\left(-j\beta_B\frac{\pi}{\alpha}\mathrm{sgn}(t)\right)}.$$
(48)

Assume that the equivalence in (16) holds. Then the characteristic function of $\widetilde{M}(x; \lambda_1, \lambda_2)$ with the variable t' follows from the above equation by substituting $t = t' \times \mu_B^{-\alpha/2}$. As a result,

$$\mathsf{E}\left[e^{jt'\widetilde{M}(x;\lambda_1,\lambda_2)}\right] = e^{-|t'|^{\frac{2}{\alpha}}\exp\left(-j\beta_B\frac{\pi}{\alpha}\operatorname{sgn}(t)\right)}.$$
(49)

Comparing the expression with the characteristic function of Form-B stable distribution in Lemma 7 in Appendix A gives the equality in (15), confirming that $\widetilde{M}(x; \lambda_1, \lambda_2)$ is the normalized differential shot-noise and that the assumed result in (16) holds. This completes the proof.

D. Proof of Proposition 3

To get the result of (19), we obtain the $\mathsf{E}\left[e^{-t\left(\sum_{Z\in\Phi_2}|Z|^{-\alpha}\right)^{-\frac{2}{\alpha}}}\right]$ first by using the series form of PDF of $S(\Phi)$ provided in (20). Accordingly,

$$\mathsf{E}\left[e^{-t\left(\sum_{Z\in\Phi_{2}}|Z|^{-\alpha}\right)^{-\frac{2}{\alpha}}}\right] = \int_{x>0} e^{-tx^{-\frac{2}{\alpha}}} \frac{1}{\pi x} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{m+1}\Gamma(1+m\frac{2}{\alpha})\sin\pi m\frac{2}{\alpha}}{m!}$$
$$\times \left(\frac{\lambda\pi\Gamma\left(1-\frac{2}{\alpha}\right)}{x^{\frac{2}{\alpha}}}\right)^{m} dx. \tag{50}$$

The integral in (50) is convergent and thus according to Fubini's theorem, we can interchange the order of integral and summation, which yields

$$\mathsf{E}\left[e^{-t\left(\sum_{Z\in\Phi_{2}}|Z|^{-\alpha}\right)^{-\frac{2}{\alpha}}}\right] = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{m+1}\Gamma(1+m\frac{2}{\alpha})\sin\pi m\frac{2}{\alpha}}{\pi m!} \left(\lambda\pi\Gamma\left(1-\frac{2}{\alpha}\right)\right)^{m} \times \int_{0}^{\infty} e^{-tx^{-\frac{2}{\alpha}}}x^{-\frac{2}{\alpha}m-1}dx$$

$$\stackrel{(a)}{=} \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{m+1}}{\Gamma(1-m\frac{2}{\alpha})} \left(\frac{\lambda \pi \Gamma(1-\frac{2}{\alpha})}{t}\right)^m$$
(51)

where (a) is derived from $\Gamma(1-z)\Gamma(z) = \frac{\pi}{\sin(\pi z)}$ for all non-integer z. Substituting $t = \lambda_1 \pi \Gamma(1-\frac{2}{\alpha})s^{\frac{2}{\alpha}}$, $\lambda = \lambda_2$ and combing (19) and (51), we can obtain the desired result.

E. Proof of Lemma 3

First, we obtain the invariance property of shot noise with respect to linear operations. Consider two independent homogeneous PPPs Φ_1 and Φ_2 with density λ_1 and λ_2 separately. Given two positive constants a and b, the weighted sum of two shot-noise processes $aS(\Phi_1) + bS(\Phi_2)$ has a Laplace function obtained as

$$\mathsf{E}\left[e^{-s\left(a\sum_{X\in\Phi_{1}(\lambda_{1})}|X|^{-\alpha}+b\sum_{Z\in\Phi_{2}(\lambda_{2})}|Z|^{-\alpha}\right)}\right] \stackrel{(a)}{=} \mathsf{E}\left[\prod_{X\in\Phi_{1}}e^{-sa|X|^{-\alpha}}\right]\mathsf{E}\left[\prod_{Z\in\Phi_{2}}e^{-sb|Z|^{-\alpha}}\right]$$
$$=e^{-\pi\Gamma\left(1-\frac{2}{\alpha}\right)\left(\left(\lambda_{1}a^{\frac{2}{\alpha}}+\lambda_{2}b^{\frac{2}{\alpha}}\right)^{\frac{\alpha}{2}}s\right)^{\frac{2}{\alpha}}}$$

where (a) applies Campbell's theorem [28]. It can be observed that the result is equivalent to the Laplace function of $\left(a^{\frac{2}{\alpha}}\lambda_1 + b^{\frac{2}{\alpha}}\lambda_2\right)^{\frac{\alpha}{2}}S(\bar{\Phi})$ with $\bar{\Phi}$ being a PPP with unit density. Then the desired results follow from applying this property to the signal-and-interference expressions.

F. Proof of Corollary 1

When $\alpha = 4$, the conditional content delivery probability in Theorem 1 is simplified as

$$P_d(\mathcal{F}_k) = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{2}{\pi} \mathsf{E}_{h_k, g_k} \left[\arctan\left(\frac{1 - g_k \sqrt{\frac{\theta_k}{h_k}}}{1 + g_k \sqrt{\frac{\theta_k}{h_k}}}\right) \right]$$
$$= \frac{1}{2} + \frac{2}{\pi} \mathsf{E}_{h_k, g_k} \left[\arctan\left(\tan\left(\frac{\pi}{4} - \arctan\left(g_k \sqrt{\frac{\theta_k}{h_k}}\right)\right) \right) \right]$$

which leads to the result in (24).

G. Proof of Lemma 4

Conditioned of the process Φ , the delivery probability based on SIR' can be expressed as

$$\Pr(\mathsf{SIR}' > \theta_k \mid \Phi) = \mathsf{E}_{h_z} \left[\exp\left(-\frac{\theta_k \sum_{z \in \Phi \setminus \Phi_k} h_z \left|Z\right|^{-\alpha}}{\sum_{X \in \Phi_k} \left|X\right|^{-\alpha}}\right) \mid \Phi \right]$$
$$= \prod_{z \in \Phi \setminus \Phi_k} \mathsf{E}_{h_z} \left[\exp\left(-\frac{\theta_k h_z \left|Z\right|^{-\alpha}}{\sum_{X \in \Phi_k} \left|X\right|^{-\alpha}}\right) \mid \Phi \right]$$

$$=\prod_{n\neq k} \left(\prod_{z\in\Phi_n} \frac{1}{1+\frac{\theta_k |Z|^{-\alpha}}{\sum_{X\in\Phi_k} |X|^{-\alpha}}} \right) \le \prod_{n\neq k} \frac{1}{1+\frac{\theta_k \sum_{z\in\Phi_n} |Z|^{-\alpha}}{\sum_{X\in\Phi_k} |X|^{-\alpha}}}.$$
 (52)

Similarly, for SIR and SIR", we have

$$\Pr(\mathsf{SIR} > \theta_k \mid \Phi) = \mathsf{E}_{h_n} \left[\exp\left(-\frac{\theta_k \sum_{n \neq k} h_n \sum_{Z \in \Phi_n} |Z|^{-\alpha}}{\sum_{X \in \Phi_k} |X|^{-\alpha}} \right) \mid \Phi \right]$$

$$= \prod_{n \neq k} \mathsf{E}_{h_n} \left[\exp\left(-\frac{\theta_k h_n \sum_{Z \in \Phi_n} |Z|^{-\alpha}}{\sum_{X \in \Phi_k} |X|^{-\alpha}} \right) \mid \Phi \right]$$

$$= \prod_{n \neq k} \frac{1}{1 + \frac{\theta_k \sum_{z \in \Phi_n} |Z|^{-\alpha}}{\sum_{X \in \Phi_k} |X|^{-\alpha}}} \leq \frac{1}{1 + \frac{\theta_k \sum_{z \in \Phi \setminus \Phi_k} |Z|^{-\alpha}}{\sum_{X \in \Phi_k} |X|^{-\alpha}}},$$

$$\Pr(\mathsf{SIR}'' > \theta_k \mid \Phi) = \mathsf{E}_{h_{k'}} \left[\exp\left(-\frac{\theta_k h_{k'} \sum_{z \in \Phi \setminus \Phi_k} |Z|^{-\alpha}}{\sum_{X \in \Phi_k} |X|^{-\alpha}} \right) \mid \Phi \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{1 + \frac{\theta_k \sum_{z \in \Phi \setminus \Phi_k} |X|^{-\alpha}}{\sum_{X \in \Phi_k} |X|^{-\alpha}}}.$$
(54)

Comparing the results given in (52), (53) and (54) gives the relation in the lemma statement.

H. Proof of Lemma 5

Proof for SIR': The distribution function of SIR' can be obtained as a function of shot-noise ratio without fading, as shown in the lemma below, so as to leverage relevant results.
 Lemma 9. The distribution function of SIR' can be written in terms of shot-noise ratio

without fading as follows:

$$\Pr\left(\mathsf{SIR}' > x\right) = \Pr\left(R\left(a_k\lambda, (1-a_k)\lambda\right) > x\frac{\Gamma\left(1+\frac{2}{\alpha}\right)^{\frac{\alpha}{2}}}{h_k}\right).$$
(55)

Proof: According to the definitions of SIR' and $R(\lambda_1, \lambda_2)$, leveraging exponential distribution h_k , the distribution functions in the lemma statement can be derived using Campbell's Theorem as follows:

$$\Pr\left(\mathsf{SIR}' > x\right) = \mathsf{E}_{\Phi_k} \left[\exp\left(-\frac{\pi\lambda(1-a_k)x^{\frac{2}{\alpha}}}{\left(\sum_{X\in\Phi_k}|X|^{-\alpha}\right)^{\frac{2}{\alpha}}}\Gamma\left(1-\frac{2}{\alpha}\right)\right) \right]$$
$$\Pr\left(R(a_k\lambda,(1-a_k)\lambda) > \frac{x}{h_k}\right) = \mathsf{E}_{\Phi_k} \left[\exp\left(-\frac{\pi\lambda(1-a_k)x^{\frac{2}{\alpha}}}{\left(\sum_{X\in\Phi_k}|X|^{-\alpha}\right)^{\frac{2}{\alpha}}}\frac{2\pi}{\alpha}\csc\frac{2\pi}{\alpha}\right) \right].$$

Comparing the right-hand sides of the above two equations reveals that they differ only in the scaling factor of x, which yields the desired result.

Combining the results in Lemma 9 and Proposition 2, we can obtain the desired result.

2) Proof for SIR": By using the Laplace function of $R(\lambda_1, \lambda_2)$ given in Proposition 3,

$$\Pr\left(\mathsf{SIR}'' > \theta_k\right) = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{m+1}}{\Gamma(1 - m_{\alpha}^2)} \left(\frac{1 - a_k}{a_k} \theta_k^{-\frac{2}{\alpha}}\right)^{-m} \mathsf{E}\left[h'_k^{-\frac{2}{\alpha}m}\right]$$
$$\stackrel{(a)}{=} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{m+1}}{\Gamma(1 - m_{\alpha}^2)} \left(\frac{1 - a_k}{a_k} \theta_k^{-\frac{2}{\alpha}}\right)^{-m} \Gamma\left(1 - m_{\alpha}^2\right) \stackrel{(b)}{=} \frac{1}{1 + \theta_k^{\frac{2}{\alpha}}\left(\frac{1}{a_k} - 1\right)}$$

where (a) follows from $\Gamma(z) = \int_0^\infty x^{z-1} e^{-x} dx$ for all complex numbers z except the non-positive integers and (b) holds since the summation is a geometric series. This completes the proof.

I. Proof of Corollary 2

1) Upper Bound: Based on the inequality in Lemma 4 and given $\alpha = 4$, replacing SIR with SIR" yields

$$P_d(\mathcal{F}_k) \le \Pr\left(\frac{h_k}{h'_k \left(\frac{1-a_k}{a_k}\right)^2 \bar{R}} > \theta_k\right)$$
$$= \mathsf{E}\Big[e^{-h'_k \theta_k \left(\frac{1-a_k}{a_k}\right)^2 \bar{R}^{-1}}\Big]$$
$$= \mathsf{E}\bigg[\frac{1}{1+\theta_k \left(\frac{1-a_k}{a_k}\right)^2 \bar{R}^{-1}}\bigg].$$

For ease of notation, define $v = \theta_k \left(\frac{1-a_k}{a_k}\right)^2$. Since the expectation in the last expression can be derived using the CCDF of \bar{R}^{-1} , applying the result in Proposition 2 gives

$$P_d(\mathcal{F}_k) \le 1 - \int_0^\infty \frac{v}{(1+vx)^2} \left[\frac{1}{2} + \frac{2}{\pi} \arctan\left(\frac{1-\sqrt{x}}{1+\sqrt{x}}\right) \right] dx$$
$$= 1 - \int_0^\infty \frac{v}{(1+vx)^2} \left(1 - \frac{2}{\pi} \arctan\sqrt{x} \right) dx$$
$$\stackrel{(a)}{=} \frac{4}{\pi v} \int_0^\infty \frac{y}{\left(\frac{1}{v} + y^2\right)^2} \arctan y dy \stackrel{(b)}{=} \frac{1}{1+\sqrt{v}} = \frac{1}{1+\sqrt{\theta_k} \left(\frac{1}{a_k} - 1\right)}$$

where (a) is by substituting $\sqrt{x} \rightarrow y$ and (b) is obtained using the the following formula in [30, BI (252)(12)a]

$$\int_{0}^{\infty} \frac{x \arctan qx}{(p^{2} + x^{2})^{2}} dx = \frac{\pi q}{4p(1 + pq)}$$

2) Lower Bound A: For ease of notation, define $\zeta_k = \frac{\pi \theta_k}{4} \left(\frac{1-a_k}{a_k}\right)^2$. Again, based on the inequality in Lemma 4 and given $\alpha = 4$, replacing SIR with SIR' leads to

$$P_d(\mathcal{F}_k) \ge 1 - \frac{2}{\pi} \mathsf{E}_{h_k} \left[\arctan\left(\sqrt{\frac{\zeta_k}{h_k}}\right) \right]$$

= $1 - \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\infty \arctan\left(\sqrt{\zeta_k} x^{-\frac{1}{2}}\right) e^{-x} dx$
 $\stackrel{(a)}{=} 1 - \frac{2}{\pi} \left(-\frac{\sqrt{\zeta_k}}{2} \int_0^\infty \frac{x^{-\frac{3}{2}}}{1 + \zeta_k x^{-1}} e^{-x} dx + \frac{\pi}{2} \right) = \frac{\sqrt{\zeta_k}}{\pi} \int_0^\infty \frac{x^{-\frac{1}{2}}}{x + \zeta_k} e^{-x} dx$

where (a) applies integration by parts. Using the following formula in [30, EH II 137(3)] yields the desired result from last expression

$$\int_{0}^{\infty} \frac{x^{\nu-1} e^{-\mu x}}{x+\beta} dx = \beta^{\nu-1} e^{\beta \mu} \Gamma\left(\nu\right) \Gamma\left(1-\nu,\beta\mu\right).$$

3) Lower Bound B: Using the fact that \arctan is a concave function for x > 0 and applying Jensen's inequality, the delivery probability in (24) is bounded as

$$P_{d}(\mathcal{F}_{k}) \geq 1 - \frac{2}{\pi} \arctan\left(\mathsf{E}\left[\frac{\sqrt{\theta_{k}}\sum_{n \neq k} a_{n}\sqrt{h_{n}}}{a_{k}\sqrt{h_{k}}}\right]\right)$$
$$\stackrel{(a)}{=} 1 - \frac{2}{\pi} \arctan\left(\frac{\pi\sqrt{\theta_{k}}}{2}\frac{1 - a_{k}}{a_{k}}\right) \tag{56}$$

where (a) is obtained by using the fact that h_k and h_n are independent and leveraging the following equalities:

$$\int_{x>0} x^{1/2} e^{-x} dx = \sqrt{\pi}/2, \quad \int_{x>0} x^{-1/2} e^{-x} dx = \sqrt{\pi}.$$

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