



ISSN: 1813-162X (Print); 2312-7589 (Online)

# Tikrit Journal of Engineering Sciences

available online at: http://www.tj-es.com



# Improved Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplexing System-Based Image Steganography Technique

Ali Y. Jaber 📭, Ammar Al-Khafaji 🕩 \*a, Ahmed Mahfodh Mkhelf 🕩

a Information and Communication Technology, Middle Technical University, Al-Zafaraniya, Baghdad, Iraq. **b** Department of Computer Systems, Technical Institute-Suwaira, Middle Technical University, Baghdad, Iraq.

# **Keywords:**

Carrier Frequency Offset; Inter-carrier Interferences; Orthogonal Division Multiplexing; Steganography.

# Highlights:

- Enhanced Steganography: New image steganography via improved OFDM system.
- Improved Security: Advanced embedding/extraction with minimal image distortion.
- OFDM Integration: Leveraging OFDM for reliable, secure image data hiding.

### ARTICLE INFO

#### Article history:

Received	03 Nov.	2023
Received in revised form	18 Mar.	2024
Accepted	07 Aug.	2024
Final Proofreading	03 July	2025
Available online	16 Aug.	2025

© THIS IS AN OPEN ACCESS ARTICLE UNDER THE CC BY LICENSE. <a href="http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/">http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/</a>



Citation: Jaber AY, Al-Khafaji A, Mkhelf AM. An Orthogonal **Improved** Frequency Division Image Multiplexing System-Based Steganography Technique. Tikrit Journal of Engineering Sciences 2025; 32(3): 1847.

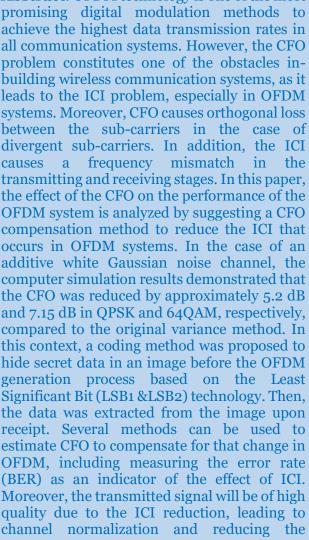
http://doi.org/10.25130/tjes.32.3.5

\*Corresponding author:

# Ammar Al-Khafaji

Information and Communication Technology, Middle Technical University, Al-Zafaraniya, Baghdad, Iraq.

**Abstract**: OFDM technology is one of the most promising digital modulation methods to all communication systems. However, the CFO problem constitutes one of the obstacles inbuilding wireless communication systems, as it leads to the ICI problem, especially in OFDM systems. Moreover, CFO causes orthogonal loss between the sub-carriers in the case of divergent sub-carriers. In addition, the ICI a frequency mismatch transmitting and receiving stages. In this paper, OFDM system is analyzed by suggesting a CFO computer simulation results demonstrated that the CFO was reduced by approximately 5.2 dB and 7.15 dB in QPSK and 64QAM, respectively, this context, a coding method was proposed to hide secret data in an image before the OFDM generation process based on the Least the data was extracted from the image upon (BER) as an indicator of the effect of ICI. Moreover, the transmitted signal will be of high quality due to the ICI reduction, leading to channel normalization and reducing the receiving complexity.



# تحسين أنظمة تعدد الإرسال بتقسيم التردد المتعامد باستخدام تقنيات إخفاء الصور

على الجابر '، عمار محمد على فاضل '، احمد محفوظ مخلف

- · قسم تكنولوجيا المعلومات والاتصالات/ الجامعة التقنية الوسطى/ الزعفر انية/ بغداد العراق.
  - قسم نظم الحاسوب/ المعهد التقنى الصويرة/ الجامعة التقنية الوسطى/ بغداد العراق.

تعد تقنية تضمين التردد التعامدي متعدد الارسال OFDM إحدى طرق التضمين الرقمي الواعدة لتحقيق أعلى معدلات نقل البيانات في جميع أنظمة الاتصالات. إلا أن مشكلةً ازاحة تردد الموجة االحاملة CFO تشكل إحدى معوقات بناء أنظمة الاتصالات اللاسلكية كونها تسبب مشكلة تداخل ترددات الموجات الحاملة ICI خاصة في أنظمة. OFDM علاوة على ذلك، فأن CFO تسبب فقدان التعامد بين الموجات الحاملة الفرعية وخاصة في الموجات الحاملة الفرعية المتباعدة. بالإضافة إلى ذلك، يتسبب ICl في عدم تطابق النردد في مرحلتي الإرسال والاستقبال. في هذا البحث، تم تحليل تأثير ظاهرة انحراف تردد الموجه الحاملة CFO على أداء نظام OFDM من خلال افتراح تعويض CFO لتقليل ICI في أنظمة.OFDM بأستخدام قناة ضوضاء غوسية بيضاء المضافة، حيث توضح نتائج المحاكاة الحاسوبية أن CFO قد تم تخفيضه بنحو و dB۷,۱۰ في QPSK و QAM-٦٤ ، على التوالي، عند مقارنتها بالطريقة التقليدية. وفي هذا السياق، تم أيضًا اقتراح التشفير لإخفاء البيانات السرية في صورة ما قبل عملية إنشاء OFDM بالاعتماد على تقنية البتات الأقل اهمية (LSB1 &LSB2)، ومن ثم يتم استخراج البيانات من الصورة عند استلامها. هناك عدة طرق لتخمين تعويض CFO بغرض تقليل الاخطاء فيُ نظام OFDM، بما في ذلك قياس معدل البت الخطأ ( (BERكمؤشر لتأثير. ICl علاوة على ذلك، ستكون الإشارة المرسلة ذات جودة عالية بسبّب تقليل ICl، مما سيؤدي إلى تطبيع القناة وتقليل تعقيد الاستقبال.

**الكلمات الدالة:** التداخلات بين الموجات الحاملة، إزاحة تردد الموجة الحاملة، تعدد الإرسال بالتقسيم المتعامد، إخفاء المعلومات.

### 1.INTRODUCTION

Orthogonal frequency division multiplexing is a popular method (OFDM) communication systems as it allows high data rates and reduces the complexity of the transceiver. Despite its benefits, OFDM has a disadvantage in that it is sensitive to carrier frequency offset (CFO), causing inter-carrier interference (ICI) [1, 2]. ICI is a problem that occurs at the output of the IFFT/FFT blocks, degrading the OFDM system's bit error rate (BER) performance [3, 4]. The main reason for ICI is the CFO, affecting the OFDM system in several ways, including attenuation and rotation of subcarriers, signal distortion, and loss of orthogonality in the signal spectrum. The loss of orthogonality in the OFDM signal spectrum is a critical issue, as it results in the overlap of sub-carriers and leads to significant degradation in system performance because orthogonality is a fundamental requirement for the proper functioning of OFDM, as it enables the demodulation of individual sub-carriers without interference from other sub-carriers [5. 6]. To address the ICI problem, various methods have been proposed to improve the performance of OFDM systems in the presence of frequency offset errors in the transmitted signal. One such method is time domain windowing, which involves pulse shaping filtering at the transmitter and receiver. This method reduces the ICI by limiting the overlap between the sub-carriers and reducing the impact of the frequency offset errors [7-9]. There are different sources of CFO in OFDM systems. For example, CFO can be introduced by the transmitter and receiver devices and signal processing or by the radio channel due to the Doppler Effect and multipath fading. The different types of CFO problems are illustrated in Fig. 1. In general, the main goal of OFDM systems is to minimize the impact of CFO and ICI to improve the overall performance and reliability of the system.

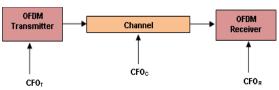


Fig. 1 The Comprehensive Frame of the CFO Problem Occurrence in OFDM System.

The proposed technique achieves ICI reduction at the expense of a high complexity OFDM system, long processing time, and high cost; however, it produces high-quality OFDM Among these techniques, compensation of carrier frequency offset CFO [7] efficiently reduces ICI. Many applications have used data hiding (steganography) to integrate systems and benefit from these techniques [10]. Many fields of knowledge, including military, medical, and scientific, are the most important in which communications use data hiding in multiple media types, including audio, video, text, protocol, and images, as in the proposed system [11]. The secret data, which is always represented by o and 1 in the LSB1 of the image pixels, is hidden so that it is not visible to intruders, which is the main purpose of hiding data. The present study aims to increase the imperceptibility of secret data by a new contribution represented in the sequence of embedding two LSBs in one image pixel.

### 2.RELATED WORKS

The resolution of Carrier Frequency Offset (CFO) in Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplexing (OFDM) systems involves various techniques, such as Self-ICI Cancellation [12], Polynomial Cancel Coding OFDM (PCC-OFDM) with partial response coding, frequency domain equalization [13], diversity (multiantenna) method, Maximum Likelihood Estimation (MLE), Extended Kalman Filtering (EKF), and Data Conjugate ICI Self Cancellation. These techniques aim to reduce

the Inter-Carrier Interference (ICI), i.e., a common issue faced in OFDM systems due to the residual frequency offset. However, some estimation errors are expected to still exist even after implementing these techniques, persisting frequency offset [7, 14]. To overcome this issue, researchers have explored the error-correction properties and offset estimation of CFO in OFDM systems. This idea is based on [15, 16]. The ultimate aim is to reduce the ICI in the coded OFDM signals by estimating and correcting the residual frequency offset. However, it still requires a high computational complexity and processing time. This approach satisfies transmitted OFDM signals with minimum interference reduction and less complexity because it avoids the estimations and optimization techniques. Many previous studies relied on hiding the data sent by OFDM and choosing several media to transfer the information and include the secret data through it. There are many ways to hide data, such as using spatial and frequency domains, and some hybrid methods that led to good results. The term steganography is commonly used with OFDM, particularly in transmitting secret data in images in a physical layer. Securing communication in OFDM is done in several ways, including using hardware and software methods. Through this, a lot of data hiding occurs at the network layer stage. It is worth noting that the physical layer also had a role in securing secret data and communication [17]. Many criteria are considered when applying steganography, such as payload capacity, imperceptibility, and accuracy of data security [18]. Next, the ICI is computed in terms of normalized CFO to transmit the OFDM signal with the minimum ICI. Therefore, where this work reduces the ICI of the transmitted OFDM signal, it focuses on sending OFDM signal with minimum ICI based on the CFO compensation scheme, resulting in a higher quality transmitted signal than conventional signal and other methods [18]. The objective of this paper is to improve the quality of signaling in Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplexing (OFDM) systems by mitigating the Inter-Carrier Interference (ICI) problem through a new approach of canceling Carrier Frequency Offset (CFO) at the transmitter side. The proposed method is a simple solution to reduce the sensitivity of OFDM systems to CFO by compensating for frequency errors and data coding using steganography information. Orthogonal frequency-division multiplexing (OFDM) is a popular method for transmitting digital signals, especially in wireless communication systems. Steganography is the practice of hiding information in plain sight by embedding it in other media, such as images or audio files [19, 20]. Combining OFDM with steganography

allows for the concealment of secret data within the subcarriers of an OFDM signal. The data can be encrypted before embedding to ensure its security. Using the OFDM method, the data can be transmitted over a channel with high bandwidth utilization, while the steganography technique helps to prevent the detection of hidden information. However, it is important to note that the embedding process can potentially impact the OFDM system's performance and affect the quality of the transmitted signal. Thus, finding a balance between the amount of information that can be embedded and the impact on the signal quality is crucial in this application [21, 22]. In conclusion, combining OFDM with steganography can provide a secure way to transmit secret data; however, the impact on the OFDM signal quality must be carefully considered [23]. Combining orthogonal frequency-division multiplexing (OFDM) and steganography has been explored in various research works in the field of communication and security [24]. Hemalatha et al. proposed a new steganographic method that enhances the security of hidden information by using the OFDM system with multiple subcarriers [25]. Pandey et al. investigated the trade-off between the amount of hidden data and the degradation of the signal quality in an OFDM system with steganography [26]. Using OFDM for steganography has been proposed for various applications, including wireless communication systems, digital image and audio transmission, and covert communication. Combining these techniques provides a way to conceal secret information within the subcarriers of an OFDM signal, making it more difficult for an eavesdropper to detect the presence of hidden information [27, 28]. Research in this area has focused on optimizing the data embedding process to minimize the impact of signal quality and maximize hidden data capacity. For example, Grzesiak et al. proposed a novel steganography method based on the cyclic prefix of OFDM signals [29]. In conclusion, using OFDM with steganography has received significant attention in literature; various works have explored the potential applications and limitations of this combination in terms of secure communication and information hiding. COMPENSATION 3.PROPOSED **CFO** 

# METHOD

In Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplexing (OFDM) systems, a block of symbols is formed by modulating each symbol, with N being the number of sub-carriers. The transmitted OFDM signal can be expressed [30] as follows:

$$x_{n} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} d_{k} exp\left(\frac{j2\pi nk}{N}\right); 0 \le k \le N-1 \quad (1)$$

The time-domain data samples of x are  $x_n$ , with  $0 \le n \le N-1$ , where dk is the data sequence, N is the number of sub-carriers, and  $j = \sqrt{-1}$ . The block diagram of an OFDM transmitter is shown in Fig. 2. The data sequence  $d_k$  is converted into a parallel signal with N subcarriers and then passes through the Inverse Fast Fourier Transform (IFFT) block. After that, the IFFT block is used to process the timedomain signal  $x_n$ . Before being transmitted over the channel, the digital-to-analog converter (DAC) transforms the signal  $S_n$  into an analog signal.

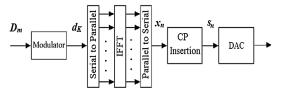


Fig. 2 OFDM Transmitter Block Diagram [19].

The significant Inter-Carrier Interference (ICI) issue at the transmitter side of Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplexing (OFDM) systems arises from the processing of signals

through the transmitter's blocks, which introduces Carrier Frequency Offset (CFO) [2]. To enhance the OFDM transmitted signal prior to transmission over a radio channel, measures must be taken to mitigate this problem caused by the CFO. Frequency synchronization is crucial for successfully implementing an Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplexing (OFDM) system. Accurate synchronization between the transmitter and receiver results in low error rates. With higher offsets, frequency offsets can decrease the efficiency of data transmission and increase the number of errors. Inter-Carrier Interference (ICI) occurs when the orthogonality of the sub-carriers is reduced by the frequency deviation between the transmitter and receiver. Synchronization issues can arise from mismatched transmitter and receiver oscillators or Doppler shifts due to the movement of either the transmitter or the receiver. While the Doppler shift effect can be compensated, it becomes challenging when combined with the impact of a multipath channel.

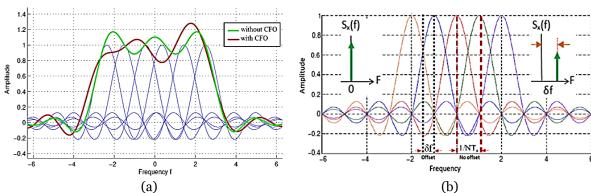


Fig. 3 Concept of the Effects of Frequency Offset (a) OFDM Spectrum and (b) OFDM Signaling [14].

Figure 3 depicts the effect of the frequency offset on the subcarrier orthogonality. The spectrum depicted by the red line results from the sub-carriers no longer being zero at the point of maximum for each subcarrier in that plot. The first spectrum is depicted by the green line. It is evident that some carriers have lost their color compared to the ideal circumstance. As a result, the OFDM data transmission will be less efficient overall, and the information carried by those carriers result in more errors. Additionally, the primary disadvantage of OFDM is frequently cited as the sensitivity to frequency offset [2]. The OFDM signals gain an additional phase factor thanks to the carrier frequency offset ( $\Delta \epsilon$ ), which serves as an explanation. Phase Factor (PF),

$$PF = e^{j2\pi\Delta\varepsilon t} = e^{j2\pi\varepsilon ft} \tag{2}$$

where f is the SC spacing,  $\varepsilon$  is the normalized CFO by f, the fractional and integer parts of the normalized frequency ( $\varepsilon$ ) can be stated as follows 31:

$$\varepsilon = \varepsilon_i + \varepsilon_f \tag{3}$$

The transmitted signal experiences a cyclic shift in the integer part, whereas it experiences phase distortion and an increase in its amplitude in the fractional part. Figure 4 illustrates a typical block diagram of the OFDM system with generating the offset frequency and comensating CFO in the transmitter. Therefore, the CFO introduces the ICI into the system, and ICI increases with the frequency offsets [31]. The frequency shift ( $\delta f$ ) in the receiver signal occurs when CFO occurs at the transmitter. Figure 3 demonstrates that the received frequency domain subcarriers are shifted by  $(I \times \delta f)$  if the frequency error is an integer multiple of the subcarrier spacing f [31]. Therefore, a new CFO compensation transmitter structure of estimation/compensation for an OFDM system is represented in Fig. 4.

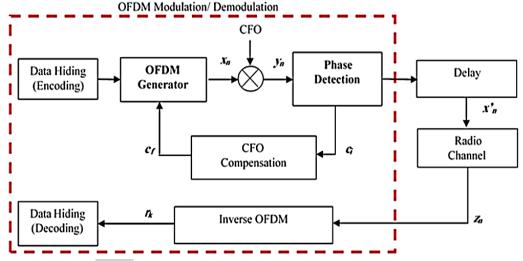


Fig. 4 Proposed CFO Compensation of an OFDM System.

Due to their power spectrums' overlap, ICI obstacles are created. The three sorts of overlapping are between SCs next to each other, between SCs themselves, or between SCs of different OFDM symbols. In addition, the main reasons for the ICI problem are represented by Tx, Rx, and Channel exactly at IFFT/ FFT blocks, as well as multipath fading channels with Doppler shift effects, respectively. On the other hand, many methods contributed to mitigating ICI applied at the transmitter and receiver sides, such as adding a cyclic prefix (CP), inserting the pilot's carrier frequency, and CFO estimation and/or compensation. The frequency offset model is portrayed in Fig. 4 as a multiplicative vector presented in the OFDM system's channel. After the transmitter applies the IFFT block, the discrete-time complex baseband OFDM signal is represented by [2],

$$x_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} d_i e^{j2\pi i n/N}$$
  $n = 0$  ...  $N-1$  (4) t can present the effect of offset frequency on OFDM signal as:

$$y_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x_n e^{-j2\pi kn/N} k = 0.1 \dots N-1$$
 (5) The transmit OFDM signal,  $X_n$ , has a time delay due to the suggested CFO compensation mechanism for ICI cancelation, which is produced by the OFDM transmitter's

processing and hardware.

$$x_n' = x_n \pm C_f \tag{6}$$

where cf is the OFDM transmitter's correction factor for CFO. Therefore, assuming that the OFDM signal was sent in response to the AWGN channel, the received signal can be constructed [32].

$$Z_n = \chi_n' + \eta_n \tag{7}$$

 $Z_n = x_n' \pm \eta_n$  (7) After removing the CP, the received signal samples are processed at the receiver side using a serial-to-parallel converter before being fed into the FFT to generate the decision variables  $r_{k_n}$ , which can be expressed as:

$$r_{k_p}^r = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} z_n e^{-j2\pi k n/N} k = 0 \ 1 \dots N - 1 \ (8)$$

where  $r_{k_p}$  is received signal with implementing the proposed CFO technique. Therefore, Algo.1 shows the Strategy idea of the algorithm for proposed CFO compensation in an OFDM system [33].

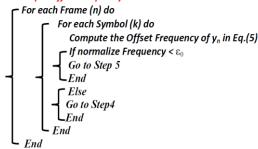
#### Step1: Hide secret data in an image

For each image do Read Secret bits Check Overload Capacity Embed in LSB<sub>1</sub> &LSB<sub>2</sub> End file

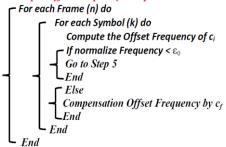
### Step2: OFDM Generation

For each Frames do IFFT using Eq. (1) and Eq. (4) of  $x_n$ - Fnd

### Step3: Offset Frequency Detection



### Step4: Offset Frequency Compensation



# Step5: Transmission

Transmit OFDM Frames

Algo. 1 Algorithm Strategy of the Proposed CFO Compensation Algorithm for OFDM System.

On the other hand, if it is assumed that the OFDM signal passes through the AWGN channel and neglects the offset frequency due to the processing signal at the receiver and without implementing the proposed CFO compensation at the transmitter, then rk will become as [34,35].

$$r_{k} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \left[ \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} d_{i} e^{j2\pi i n/N} \right] e^{j2\pi \varepsilon n/N} + \eta_{n} e^{-j2\pi k n/N}$$
(9)

and subsequently,

$$r_k = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} d_i e^{j2\pi(\varepsilon + i - k)n/N} + w_k$$
 (10)

where  $\omega_k$  is the FFT of  $\eta_n$ . The first term in Eq. (10) can be expanded for l = k and  $l \neq k$ ; therefore,  $r_k$  can be rewritten as a Useful Signal,

$$r_{k} = \left[ d_{k} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} e^{j2\pi\varepsilon n/N} \right] + \left[ \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \sum_{\substack{i=0\\i\neq k}}^{N-1} d_{i} e^{j2\pi(\varepsilon + i - k)n/N} \right] + [w_{k}]$$
(11)

Finally,

$$r_k = \frac{Generated}{OFDM \ signal} + CFO_T + Noise$$
 (12)

Data transfer needs to be kept secret before it is proceeded to transfer it. Data hiding in the proposed method is based on hiding text in a digital image, which will be transmitted through communication channels. The image consists initially of a group of pixels

representing the image's resolution, and one pixel consists of 8 bits to achieve the highest color intensity value, which is 28=256. Any change in the least significant bits of the LSB cannot be recognized by the human eye because it can distinguish the difference in chromatic intensities when it is more than 25. Therefore, this feature is exploited, and data is embedded in two bits, whose value is 22 = 4, as illustrated in (Fig. 5).

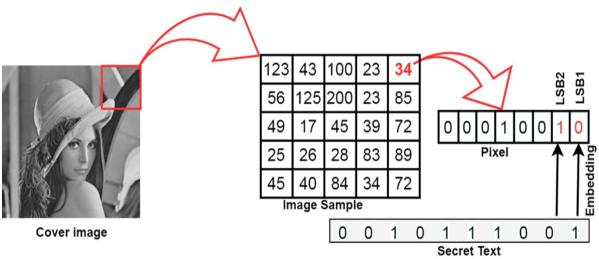


Fig. 5 Proposed Steganography Technique Through OFDM.

### 4.RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Through CFO compensation, the improvements in bit error rate performance are demonstrated in this section. The simulation considers 128 subcarrier OFDM systems with different modulation techniques, including QPSK and 64QAM. The AWGN channel without CFO is assumed to be the channel used in the simulation, noting that the presence of CFO degrades the performance of a multi-carrier OFDM system with high subcarrier modulation, having little CFO is a major drawback in these systems due to the sensitivity of the systems to frequency change. Fig. 6

shows how OFDM systems with 64-QAM modulation and N equal to 128 perform in terms of BER for various normalized frequency offset (ε) values. Furthermore, with conditions of transmitting OFDM signal through AWGN channel and the assumption that CFOc and CFO<sub>r</sub> are absent, Figure 6 illustrates the effects of increasing frequency offset on system performance. To be clear, the standard performance threshold was BER=10-3, as anything higher than that may make it challenging to attain acceptable system performances even at high SNRs. Also, it is clear from this figure that  $\varepsilon \ge 0.042$  was enough to severely degrade the system under the above work conditions. On the other hand, it is possible to observe that the OFDM degradation is proportional to the frequency offset and the SNR simultaneously. Figure 7 illustrates the degradation of the Signal-to-Interference-Noise ratio SINR (in decibels) [36,37] as a function of the frequency offset. According to this figure, without effects of normalized frequency, not being subcarriers interferences. SINR represented 13, 17, 23, and 29 dB. Also, SINR was reduced by increasing the value of the normalized frequency offset, while SINR increased by growing the SNR. Figure 8 compares the BER performance of a 64QAM

and QPSK OFDM system with over AWGN in the presence of CFO due to transmitter-side devices and signal processing at values of  $\epsilon=$  0, 0.05, and 0.1. This comparison shows that the 64 QAM OFDM system's BER performance was low because the CFO influenced the high modulation index OFDM system. However, the result was acceptable at 10-3 and a normalized frequency of (0.05) compared with the benefits of using high modulation systems. Meanwhile, the BER for an OFDM system with 64QAM and QPSK in the case of 23 dB S/N is shown in Fig. 9. In the event of  $\epsilon=$  0.05 and BER of 10-4, S/N varied between 27dB and 40 dB for 64QAM and QPSK, respectively.

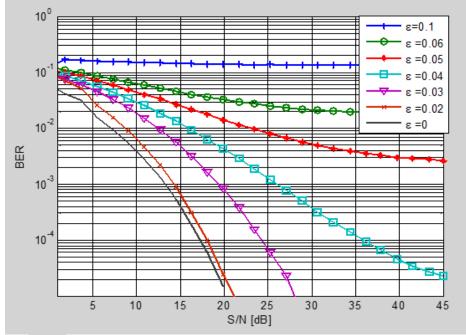


Fig. 6 BER Performances for Different Values of the Normalized CFO.

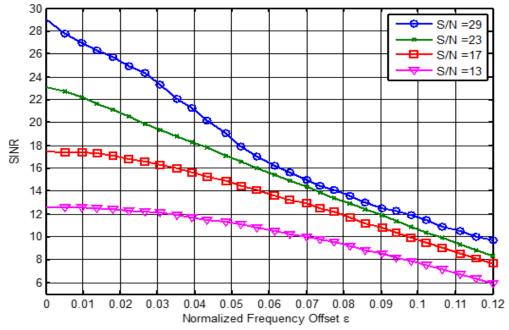


Fig. 7 Signal-to-Interference-Plus-Noise-Ratio (SINR) Performances Over CFO.

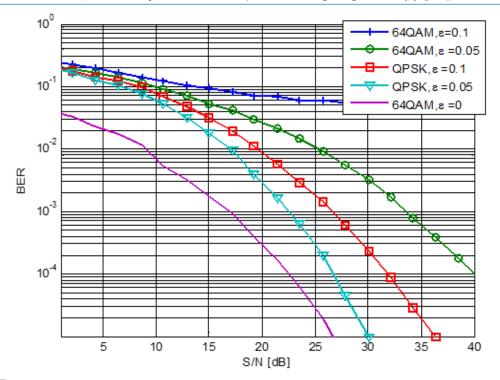


Fig. 8 64QAM and QPSK-OFDM System BER's Performances Over AWGN Channel in Case of ε Equal to 0, 0.05, and 0.1.

Data hiding is part of the system proposed in this paper, so for evaluating the work, steganography also takes a share in these results. Many criteria can steganography; however, the most important criteria were considered, i.e., Peak-to-Signal Ratio (PSNR) and Mean Square Error (MSE). The following equation is used to determine that:

$$MSE = \frac{1}{mn} \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} [I(i,j) - K(i,j)]^{2}$$

$$PSNR = 10. \log_{10} \left(\frac{MAX_{1}^{2}}{MSE}\right)$$

Where Max represents the maximum pixel value of the image, whose dimensions are n and m, and l and k represent the original pixels. When using the proposed method, three different capacities and three types of images from a standard image set in a standard database, USC-SIPI, were proposed to measure better performance. Three volume capacities were used, namely 16394, 32778, and 49252 bytes, with storage rates of 6.25%, 12.5%, and 18.75%, respectively. Here, an image of 1024 × 1024 pixels is used for two types of color images and a grayscale image. The method of addition in the gray image is in the form of one channel. However, in the color image, three channels were used for embedding, namely RGB. The percentage was calculated as 1 pixel = 8 bit, so 1/8 was 12.5%, i.e., the embedding is in one bit, 2 pixels = 16 bits, i.e., 1/16 was 6.25%, i.e., the embedding was in two bits. As shown in Table 1, increasing the payload capacity decreased PSNR because increasing the data in the image raised doubts about the image and made it more vulnerable to hacking. Therefore, it is necessary to balance the load capacity of the image and the quality of the image. Increasing the contrast in the image increased the possibility of increasing the storage capacity. It was noticed that the peppers image contained more contrast in the pixel unit, so filling in the data in this case was feasible.

Table 1 PSNR of Standard Images with 512 ×512 Pixels.

Capacity	%	Lena	Baboon	Peppers
16384	6.25	82.7 dB	86.8 dB	89.5 dB
32768	12.5	80.2 dB	82.9 dB	85.0 dB
65536	18.75	76.9 dB	79,8 dB	80.3 dB

## 5.CONCLUSION

In the OFDM systems, the CFO problem is due to transmitting the signal between the stages of the transmission device, maximizing the ICI problem with the enlargement of the expansion of the transmitted signal after the amplifier stage. Thus, it causes a significant deterioration of the error rate of bits (BER). Since Many researchers are interested in the issue of the CFO's height, the present study looked at how it affected the various OFDM system standards. When it came to the design of the wireless communication system, the primary objective was to locate a mechanism that strikes a reasonable balance between the system's performance and the various parameters. ICI energy was completely removed when the natural frequency displacement was small (0.03), while higher than (0.03), the ICI power was affected; however, it was not completely removed. While the proposed CFO's compensation in the transmission device completely removed ICI even with the displacement of the high standard frequency 0.12, BER performance was tested with the proposed technology via AWGN, assuming no frequency violation. The simulation results confirmed that the error rate of bits can be improved when comparing the proposed technologies with other methods. Then, the effect of the financial manager on the OFDM system was analyzed using the compensation method. The analysis showed that the nonlinearity lands from the CFO through the deterioration of SNR.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The authors are grateful to the Middle Technical University (MTU), Iraq, for technical assistance. This study is part of the research plan for the department session ICT (2024).

### **REFERENCES**

- [1] Sastry KS, Baburao K, Prabu AV, Kumar GN. Comparison of SPS and Fa Methods for Blind Carrier Frequency Offset Estimation in **OFDM Systems.** International Journal of Mathematical Models and Methods in Applied Sciences 2022; 16:7-11.
- [2] Ramadan K, Dessouky MI, El-Samie FEA. **Equalization** and Co-Carrier Frequency Offsets Compensations for UWA-Ofdm Communication Systems. Wireless Personal Communications 2022; **124**(3):2229-
- [3] Kim K, Park H, Kwon HM. Rate-Compatible SFBC-OFDM under Rapidly Time-Varying Channels. IEEE Transactions on Communications 2011; **59**(8):2070-2077.
- [4] Al-Dalakta EYQ. PAPR and ICI **Reduction Techniques for OFDM** Based **Satellite Communication** Systems. Ph.D Thesis. Newcastle University; Newcastle, UK: 2012.
- [5] Sharma KK, Joshi SD. Time Delay **Estimation Using Fractional Fourier** Transform. Signal Processing 2007; **87**(5):853-865.
- [6] Avrashi G, Amar A, Cohen I. Time-Varying Carrier Frequency Offset Estimation in OFDM Underwater Acoustic Communication. *Processing* 2022; **190**:108299.
- [7] Rugini L, Banelli P. BER of OFDM Systems Impaired by Carrier Frequency Offset in Multipath **Fading Channels.** *IEEE Transactions* Wireless Communications 2005; 4(5):2279-2288.
- [8] Assimonis SD, Matthaiou M. Karagiannidis GK, Nossek JA.

- Optimized "better than" Raised-Cosine Pulse for Reduced ICI in **OFDM Systems.** 17<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Telecommunications 2010; Doha, Qatar. IEEE: p. 249-252.
- [9] Bishnu A, Jain A, Shrivastava A. Optimized Sinc Power Pulse for Inter Carrier Interference Mitigation in OFDM System. 2013 Annual IEEE India Conference, 2013 December; INDICON, IEEE:1-4.
- [10] Ramadoss J, Kengne R, Tokoue ND, Kamdoum TV, Rajagopal K, Motchongom **Three-Dimensional** TM. A Autonomous System with Parabolic Equilibrium: Dynamical Analysis, Adaptive Synchronization Relav Coupling, Applications to Steganography and Chaos Encryption. Complexity 2022; 2022(1): 8362836, (1-12).
- [11] Pandev BK, Pandev D, Wairva S, Agarwal G, Dadeech P, Dogiwal SR, Pramanik S. Application of **Integrated** Steganography and **Image** Compressing **Techniques** for **Information** Confidential **Transmission.** In: Pramanik S, Samanta D, Vinay M, Guha A, eds., Cyber Security and Network Security 2022; 169-191.
- [12] Wang YY, Chen WW. A Kernel-Based **ICI Self-Cancellation Scheme Using Constrained Subcarrier Combiners.** Signal Processing 2014; 101:142-150.
- [13] Sathananthan K, Tellambura Probability of Error Calculation of **OFDM Systems with Frequency** Offset. IEEE**Transactions** Communications 2001; 49(11): 1884-1888.
- [14] Dharmawansa P, Rajatheva N, Minn H. **An Exact Error Probability Analysis** of OFDM Systems with Frequency Offset. *IEEE* **Transactions** Communications 2009; 57(1):26-31.
- [15] Park DH, Song HK. A New PAPR Reduction Technique of OFDM System with Nonlinear High Power **Amplifier.** *IEEE Transactions on* Consumer Electronics 2007; 53(2):327-
- [16] Li P, Zhang X, Su Y, Wu L. A Novel Variance Minimum Output **Estimator for Carrier Frequency** Offset in OFDM Systems. Tsinghua Science & Technology 2007; 12(6):674-
- [**17**] Wu Z, Guo J, Zhang C, Li C. Steganography and Steganalysis in Voice Over IP: A Review. Sensors 2021; **21**(4):1032, (1-30).
- [18] Fadhil AM. Bit Inverting Map Method for **Improved** Steganography

- Scheme. Ph.D Thesis. Universiti Teknologi Malaysia; Johor, Malaysia: 2016.
- [19] Nassar SS. El-Bendary **Considerations: Confidentiality** Multimedia Signals Transmission Over Different Wireless Channels Utilized Efficient Secured Model. Multimedia Tools and Applications 2022; **81**(18):25707-25744.
- [20] Fadhil AM, Jalo HN, Mohammad OF. Improved Security of a Deep **Learning-Based** Steganography System with **Imperceptibility Preservation.** International Journal of Electrical and Computer Engineering Systems 2023; **14**(1):73-81.
- [21] Kansal L, Berra S, Mounir M, Miglani R, Dinis R, Rabie K. **Performance Analysis of Massive MIMO-OFDM System Incorporated with Various Transforms** for **Image** Communication in 5G Systems. Electronics 2022; **11**(4):621.
- [22] Yi X, Zhong C. Deep Learning for Joint **Channel Estimation and Signal** Detection in OFDM Systems. IEEE Communications Letters 2020; 24(12): 2780-2784.
- [23] Mahmood AF, Kanai NA, Mohmmad SS. **FPGA** Implementation An Secured Steganography Communication System. Journal of Engineering Sciences 2012; **19**(4):14-23.
- [**24**] Hama Y, Ochiai H, Shikata J. Performance Analysis of Wireless **Steganography Based on OFDM and DFT-s-OFDM Signals** Frequency-Selective Ravleigh **Fading** Channels. **International** Wireless Sumposium on Personal Multimedia Communications (WPMC). 2021 December 24; Okayama, Japan. IEEE: p. 1-6.
- [25] Hemalatha S, Acharya UD, Renuka A. Wavelet **Transform** Based Steganography Technique to Hide Audio Signals in Image. Procedia Computer Science 2015; 47:272-281.
- [26] Pandey A, Saini BS, Singh B, Sood N. An **Integrated Approach Using Chaotic** Map & Sample Value Difference for Electrocardiogram Method Steganography and OFDM Based Secured **Patient Information Transmission.** Journal of Medical Systems 2017; **41**:1-20.
- [27] Eyssa AA, Abdelsamie FE, Abdelnaiem An **Efficient Image** Steganography Approach Wireless Communication System.

- Wireless Personal Communications 2017; **110**:321-337.
- [28] Lakshmi C, Jayarin PJ. Design and **Implementation** of Reconfigurable Area and Power-**Efficient Steganography for Medical Information's** in **MIMO-OFDM** Channel Coding. Wireless Personal Communications 2022; **124**(3):2271-2298.
- [29] Grzesiak K, Piotrowski Z, Kelner JM. A Wireless Covert Channel Based on Dirty Constellation with Phase Drift. Electronics 2021; 10(6):647.
- [30] Huang M. Channel Statistical OFDM Transmission System Resource Allocation Algorithm. International Conference on Electronics, Electrical and Information Engineering 2021 (ICEEIE 2021) 13-16 August 2021; Changsha, China: p. 1-2.
- [31] Mohseni S, Matin MA. Study of the Sensitivity of the OFDM Wireless **Systems to the Carrier Frequency Offset (CFO)**. *International Journal of* Distributed and Parallel Systems 2013;
- [32] Salam SST. Channel Estimation and **Inter-Carrier** Interference. Thesis. Universiti Teknologi Malaysia; Jahor, Malaysia: 2013.
- [33] Armstrong J. Analysis of New and **Existing Methods of Reducing** Intercarrier Interference Due to Carrier Frequency Offset in OFDM. IEEE Transactions on Communications 1999; 47(3):365-369.
- [34] Gao W, Duan C, Zhang J. Subcarrier Spreading for ICI Mitigation in OFDM/OFDMA Systems. *IEEE* **International** Conference Communications 2010 May: Cape Town. South Africa. IEEE: p. 1-6.
- [35] Shahab MM, Hardan SM, Hammoodi AS. A New Transmission and Reception Algorithms for Improving the **Performance of SISO/MIMO-OFDM** Wireless Communication System. Tikrit Journal of Engineering Sciences 2021; **28**(3):146-158.
- [36] Long Y, Kuang L, Lu J. Precoded OFDM System for ICI Mitigation Over **Time-Frequency Selective Fading** Channels. Tsinghua Science Technology 2009; 14(2):206-211.
- [37] Mohammed AA. OFDM Channel **Estimation Enhancement Using** Null Subcarriers. Tikrit Journal of Engineering Sciences 2018; **25**(1):12-17.