

## Research Article

# Link Budget Analysis for 5G Communication in the Tropical Regions

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In the tropical regions, when a signal is transmitted from a transmitter to a receiver, the signal gets highly attenuated because of heavy rainfall. By using different diversity techniques, this signal attenuation is minimized. The multiple-input multiple-output (MIMO) system is an antenna diversity technique, and in this paper, this technique has been applied to the proposed communication link model designed for 5G communication in the tropical regions. Here, a proposed link budget has been set down to enhance the signal power and signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) at the receiver. In this paper, an experimental data sheet has also been adopted to achieve the desired result of the proposed link budget. In fine, a comparison of assumption values of the proposed link budget with practical values obtained from the experimental data sheet has been displayed in the result analysis part.

## 1. Introduction

Heavy rainfall is one of the main characteristics of the tropical regions. Because of this geographical phenomenon, the people of those regions always face a lot of obstacles like signal attenuation and rainfall detection in their spheres of communication. In [1], in order to inquire into the effect of rainfall on the dispersion of millimeter waves, the actual measurements have been executed at 26 GHz frequency. The measurements are obtained by applying a microwave 5G radio connection system for 1.3 km path length carried out at Universiti Teknologi Malaysia Johor Bahru, Malaysia. At the same time, the enumeration received from the measurement for the most bad month is lesser than that of the ITU-R (International telecommunication union) model. The main effect of rainfall on electromagnetic wave propagation has produced a number of concentrated studies which focus on the attenuation of rain. These studies have been conducted to enquire and foretell the attenuation of rain in various areas for different frequency bands. The previous studies were carried out by Robertson and King [2], Mueller [3], Wexler and Weinstein [4], and Anderson et al. [5]. In the

work executed by Mueller [3], the actual ratings were designed to test for long distance rainfall reduction by 0.62 cm (cm). From that study, it was discovered that average rainfall of 0.62 cm produced 0.6 dB/mile/mm/hr via a one-way connection. In the same year 1946, another measurement study was conducted by Robertson and King in Bell Mobile Laboratories in New York [2]. He studied the impact of rain on the spread of 1.09 cm wavelength for the zone between 1 cm and 4 cm. It turned out that there was greater than 25 dB reduction that led to each mile in the rain cloud ratings. In addition, the rainfall waves more than 3 cm in light and the average rainfall was reduced, but it was possible to reach 5 dB per mile within cloudburst. In 1947, another measurement study on rainfall reduction of 1.25 cm was produced by Anderson et al. in the United States Navy Electronics Labs in California [5]. That experimental setup contained a maximum 6400 feet optical path length and nine units of rainfall measurements placed in the same area. Both patterns of unvarying and varying rainfall were used in the region of the test system. From that study, that light was recognized as rainfall balance which could diminish normal contact link without rain by about 10%. As a result, many measurement

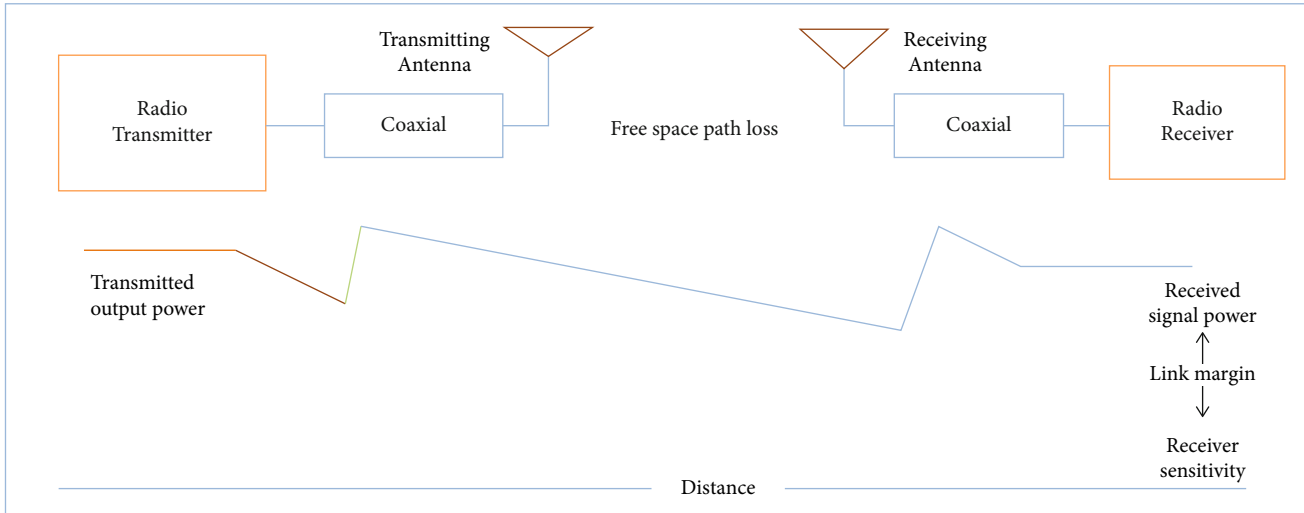


FIGURE 1: Power transmission in wireless system through free space.

studies are being rapidly developed throughout the world. In Malaysia, the first study was started which focused on the attenuation of rain in addition to wireless communication system and this study was implemented in the early 1990s at Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) [6] and Universiti Sain Malaysia (USM) [7]. In these studies, the actual measurements were found in different places and had different frequency bands. Many researchers and developers have been exerting their best efforts for a long time through 5G communication to overcome the obstacles caused by heavy rainfall in the tropical regions, and many budgets have also been set down to remove these obstructions. According to 28 GHz MIMO ( $4 \times 4$ ) channel computation for LOS and NLOS, the capacity of the channel and link budget of the system are analyzed in [8]. The capacity of the MIMO channel is simulated as a distance function. The main objective in [9] is to find out the interdependence of the frequency of path loss of the signal for various environments and for different ranges between the terminals of the antennas for foretelling the subsequent wireless canal for appropriate designs. In [10], the work relates to the prediction of the theory and the assessment of end-to-end, slow-moving, and fast-moving forms, as well as the total loss of pathway that occurs at an urban international radio station with the various rise of the station and transmitting subscriber antenna in terms of roofing. The basic properties of THz waves have been investigated in [11], and the availability of high-quality data for THz wireless links is obtained. In [12], an example link budget has been described. In [13], a close inspection of the characteristics of mmWave dispersion, channel designing, and suggestion of device such as structure and application of antenna device for mmWave including link budget of the system have been introduced into presence. But, no link budget appears to be reflected in the aforesaid papers for the benefit of tropical regions using MIMO technique. So, a link budget of the proposed communication link model has been put forward in this paper using MIMO technique for 5G communication for the tropical regions. Thereafter, with a view to increasing signal power as well as signal-to-noise

ratio (SNR) at the receiver, this proposed link budget which depends on different parameters has been placed in this paper.

In this paper, in this proposed communication link model  $4 \times 4$ , MIMO technique has also been used. The multiple-input multiple-output (MIMO) technique multiplies the capacity of channels to increase the signal power at the receiver and also to enhance the reliability of the system [14–16]. Multiplexing gain is also an advantage of MIMO technique as multiple data streams from different transmitting antennas are transferred to different receiving antennas at the uniform frequency [17]. As the MIMO technique has been applied to this proposed model, a brief description of measurements of MIMO systems has been depicted in Section 2.

As the proposed budget in this paper relates to communication link, it is necessary to mention some features of the communication link. For wireless connectivity, link pointing provides an easy connection between the transmitter and receiver. At this basic link, the transmitted signal passes along the line-of-sight route to the recipient and medium is the free space. The purpose of the communication link is to check the signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) at the receiver to verify the performance of a link. When the signal strength is reduced by geometric spread of the front wave, it is generally known as free space loss. The signal strength is still distributed over the front wave, the area increases as the distance from the transmitter increases. As a result, the density of the power decreases. With free space link, if Friis figure is introduced, it becomes possible to calculate the loss of path. The power transmission in a wireless system through free space is shown in Figure 1.

Section 1 in this paper denotes only the introduction portion. Section 2 displays the measurement of the MIMO system. Section 3 depicts the proposed communication link model. Section 4 describes the link budget of the proposed model. Section 5 illustrates the link budget using experimental data. Section 6 exhibits the result analysis part. Section 7 relates to conclusion part and in fine, references are quoted.



TABLE 1: Parameters of the proposed link budget.

Assumption 1		Assumption 2	
Parameters	Values	Parameters	Values
Distance (km)	1.6	Distance (m)	400
Frequency (GHz)	71.5	Frequency (GHz)	24.5
Transmitted output power (dBm)	16	Transmitted output power (dBm)	18.5
Transmitting antenna gain (dBi)	41	Transmitting antenna gain (dBi)	42.5
Receiving antenna gain (dBi)	41	Receiving antenna gain (dBi)	42.5
Background noise (dBm/Hz)	-174	Background noise (dBm/Hz)	-174
Bandwidth (MHz)	26	Bandwidth (MHz)	748
Noise figure at receiver (dB)	4	Noise figure at receiver (dB)	3
Loss for rain (dB)	30	Loss for rain (dB)	27
Link margin (dB)	20	Link margin (dB)	35

structure. Therefore, the input signal passes along the TCM decoder. This decoder uses the Viterbi algorithm to determine trellis-coded fluctuation data which are organized using a phase-shift method. Thereafter, the input signal goes through the error rate calculation which includes the error rate of the received data as compared to the delayed version of the transmitted data. Block output is a three-dimensional vector that contains an error rating, followed by the number of errors found and the total number of symbols compared. This vector is transmitted to the workspace or output port.

#### 4. Link Budget of the Proposed Model

A budget of a link is a way to measure the effectiveness of a link. The power received from a wireless connector is determined by three factors viz. power transmission, gain of transmitting antenna, and gain of receiving antenna. If that power which removes the loss of free space for the communication link is greater than the minimum accepted signal level of the received radio, a link is possible. The difference between the minimum signal obtained and the actual received power is called the link margin. The amount of link margin required is reduced by the use of reduction techniques such as antenna variation or frequency repetition. A simple link budget equation is reflected as per following:

$$\text{Power received in dB} = \text{Power transferred in dB} + \text{gains in dB} - \text{losses in dB.} \quad (3)$$

If it is considered that the antennas are adjusted for maximum transmission and reception, in free space,

$$\text{Prs} = \frac{\text{GtsAerPts}}{4nr^2}, \quad (4)$$

where Aer is the aperture of the receiving antenna. Since  $\text{Aer} = \text{Grs}\lambda^2/4n$ ,  $\lambda$  is the wavelength:

$$\text{Prs} = \text{GrsGtsPts} \left[ \frac{\lambda}{4nr} \right]^2. \quad (5)$$

TABLE 2: Assumption values of SNR for assumption 1 and assumption 2 from Table 1.

Assumptions	Received signal power (dBm)	Noise power (dBm)	SNR (dB)
Assumption 1	-65.618	-95.827	30.209
Assumption 2	-35.774	-82.238	46.464

TABLE 3: MIMO channel capacity calculation for assumption values.

Assumptions	SNR(dB)	MIMO Channel capacity(bits/s/Hz)
Assumption 1	30.229	19.860
Assumption 2	46.464	22.154

Now, the link budget equation including all the loss and gain effects is expressed logarithmically and is written in the following manner [16]:

$$\text{Prs} = \text{Pts} + \text{Gts} + \text{Grs} - \text{Lts} - \text{Lpf} - \text{Lml} - \text{Lrs}, \quad (6)$$

where Prs is the power received (dBm), Pts is the output power transmitted (dBm), Gts is the transmitting antenna gain (dBi), Grs is the receiving antenna gain (dBi), Lts is the losses of a transmitter (dB), Lpf is the path loss of free space (dB), Lml is the losses of different kinds which includes losses for body, fading margin, rain, polarization mismatch, etc.) (dB), and Lrs is the losses of a receiver (dB).

Losses produced out of propagation between the antennas of the transmitter and receiver, usually referred to as the path loss, are illustrated in dimensionless form with the help of normalization of the distance to the wavelength:

$$\text{Lpf (dB)} = 20 \log_{10} \left[ 4n \left( \frac{D}{\lambda} \right) \right], \quad (7)$$

where the distance  $D$  and wavelength  $\lambda$  are alike units.

In some cases, it is easy to assume losses separately because of distance and wavelength, but in that case, it is

TABLE 4: Parameters used for the experiment in the tropical regions.

Parameters	K-band	E-band	E-band
Frequency	21.8 GHz	73.5 GHz	73.5 GHz
Distance	1.8 km	1.8 km	300 m
Bandwidth	28 MHz	750 MHz	750 MHz
Type of antenna	Directional 0.6 m (ANT3 0.6 23 HP)	Directional 0.3 m (ANT2 0.3 80 HP)	Directional 0.2 m (ANT2 0.2 80 HP)
Polarization type	Vertical	Vertical	Vertical
Antenna gain	40.7 dBi	46.5 dBi	43.5 dBi
Antenna half power beam width	1.7 (degree)	0.8 (degree)	1.1(degree)
Maximum transmitted output power	20 dBm	15 dBm	15 dBm

important to keep track of the applied units, as each option involves a different offset. An example of loss because of distance (km) is displayed below [20]:

$$\text{Lpf (dB)} = 92.45 \text{ dB} + 20 \log [F(\text{GHz})] + 20 \log [D(\text{km})], \quad (8)$$

where  $D$  is the distance in km and  $F$  is the frequency in GHz.

Now, to calculate the SNR values, it is inevitable to calculate the noise power at the receiver. The receiver thermal noise is expressed by the following equation [16]:

$$P_{tn} = K_b T_k B_w, \quad (9)$$

where  $P_{tn}$  is the receiver thermal noise power in watts,  $K_b$  is Boltzmann's constant,  $T_k$  is the receiver temperature at Kelvin, and  $B_w$  is the bandwidth in Hz.

So, the noise power is mathematically expressed as [8] below:

$$N_p = P_{tn} + N_{se}F, \quad (10)$$

where  $N_{se}F$  is the noise figure. To set down the proposed link budget for the proposed model, the necessary parameters and their assumption values are shown below in Table 1 [21–23]. For considering parameters and their assumption values, it is necessary to know how with the increase of operating frequency rain attenuation increases but this phenomenon depends on the average rain rate per annum. For computing rain rate and rain attenuation, a valid and reliable data sheet is required which is available in [1].

Now using Equations (6), (8), (9), and (10) the values of received signal power and noise power have been computed for assumption 1 and assumption 2. The SNR values have been calculated by subtracting the noise power from received signal power. The calculation of SNR values is shown mathematically by the following equation:

$$\text{SNR} = \text{Pr}_s - N_p. \quad (11)$$

The calculated values of received signal power, noise power, and SNR have been tabulated and demonstrated in Table 2.

Using Equation (1), the capacity of the MIMO channel applied to this proposed model has been calculated for assumption 1 and assumption 2 and these values are given in Table 3.

## 5. Link Budget Using Experimental Data

For link budget analysis, the signal-to-noise ratio computation arrangement and test site atmosphere are discussed in the following manner.

For this experiment, the transmission equipment and receiver equipment of the K-band and E-band for this rating campaign have been provided by Ericsson, namely, Mini Links ML-6363 and ML-6352. The details of specification for ML-6363 and ML-6352 are depicted in [24, 25].

21.8 GHz K-band and 73.5 GHz E-band setups have been in use since September 2018 to study the effect of rainfall. The 21.8 GHz connector has been fixed to support up to 225 Mbps via a 28 MHz bandwidth channel switching and flexibility up to 1024 QAM. The 73.5 GHz connector has been designed to support up to 4.532 Gbps through a 750 MHz channel bandwidth and flexible mode switching up to 256 QAM. Average parameters of the setting of the above links including specifications are given in Table 4 where both the transmitter and receiver in each link accept the same types of antennas. Data importer receiver records the maximum and minimum amount of reference signal level regularly at a 15-minute interval. Both links are available at the University of Technology Malaysia (UTM), Kuala Lumpur (KL), Malaysia, by radio length of line-of-sight road of 1.8 km. Transmitter for both links with the label Site A (3 11'7"N, 101 43'46"E) are available on the top of a five-story student residence (49 meters above sea level) outside the university campus.

A receiver for both links with the site named B (3 10'21"N, 101 43'10"E) is found at level 16 in one of the upper administrative buildings (43 meters above sea level) at the university campus.

Another E-band link was established within UTM, KL campus whose assesment system parameters are listed in Table 4. The receiver is located on site B while transmitter labeled as site C (300 m LOS from site B) (3 10'20"N, 101 43'19"EE) is located on the top of the UTM Revenue House building (41 meters above sea level) [26].



TABLE 5: SNR values obtained from the experimental data sheet.

Frequency	Distance	Received signal power (dBm)	Noise power (dBm)	SNR (dB)
K-band (21.8 GHz)	1.8 km	-52.924	-95.447	42.523
E-band (73.5 GHz)	1.8 km	-56.880	-81.168	24.288
E-band (73.5 GHz)	300 m	-47.317	-81.168	33.683

TABLE 6: MIMO channel capacity calculation for experimental data.

Frequency band	SNR (dB)	Channel capacity (bits/s/Hz)
K-band (21.8 GHz, distance 1.8 km)	42.523	21.776
E-band (73.5 GHz, distance 1.8 km)	24.288	18.410
E-band (73.5 GHz, distance 300 m)	33.683	20.297

In this experiment, three link setups have been established. To collect rain rate, data of the aforesaid three link setups, three HOBO (Honest Observer by Onset) data recording rain gages has been inserted in the channel path. The data recording the rainfall system is powered by a battery and contains a data recorder with a light rainfall gauge of 0.2 mm sensitivity. Details of definition of a rain gauge are provided in [27]. Two rain gages have been inserted at the receiver site (Rx) while the third is placed at the transmitter (Tx) site. Two acceptable receiver rain gages (called  $R_{G}Rx$  and  $R_{G}Rx1$ ) have been placed on the top of the two separate buildings but the distance of the receiver from one building is 130 m and that of the receiver from the other building is 380 m. Again, a transmitter rain gage ( $R_{G}Tx$ ) is placed on the top the building near the transmitter building which is approximately 50 meters from the transmitting antenna. The rainfall is recorded by the rain gages for every minute interval.

Now, using Equation (6), (8), (9), and (10), the received signal power, noise power, and SNR values at the receiver for experimental data have been calculated. These calculated SNR values for practical data are shown in Table 5.

Now, using Equation (1), the MIMO channel capacity for the above experimental data has been calculated and demonstrated in Table 6.

## 6. Result Analysis

From Tables 2 and 5, it is observed that the assumption SNR values for assumption 2 reflect higher than the practical values obtained from the experimental data sheet. The SNR values depend on received signal power and noise power. The received signal power and noise power depend on various parameters. Here, only six parameters viz. distance, frequency, transmitted output power, transmitting or receiving antenna gain, MIMO channel capacity, and bandwidth have been chosen for the proposed link budget. Now, six figures (Figures 3–8) have been plotted below to show how the received signal power, noise power, and SNR values vary with the aforesaid parameters. From Figures 3 and 4, it is seen that the received signal power values are diminished when the

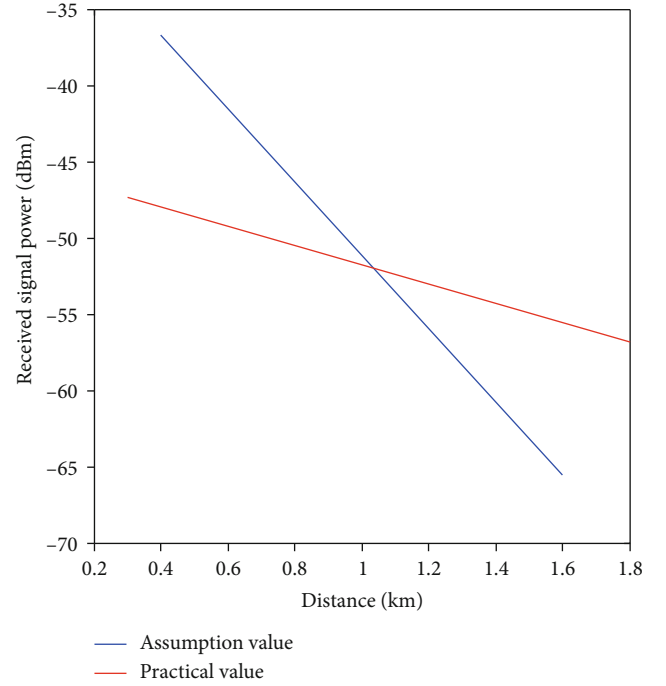


FIGURE 3: Variation of received signal power with distance.

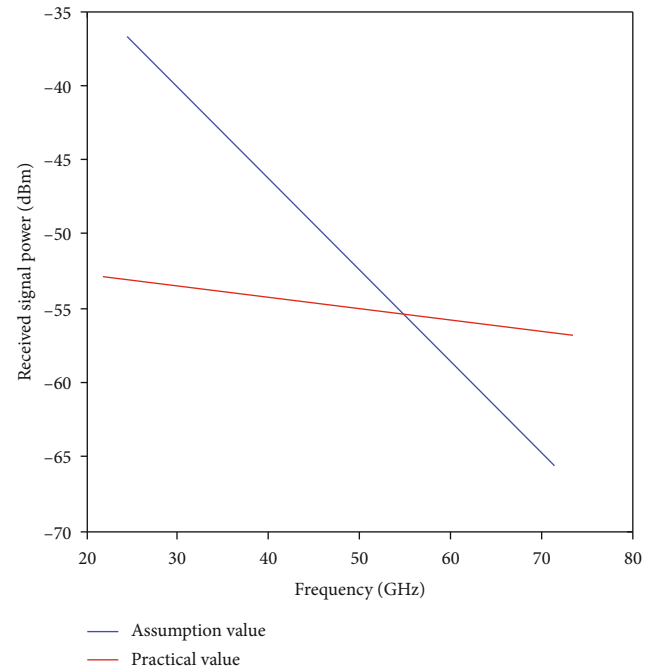


FIGURE 4: Variation of received signal power for frequency.

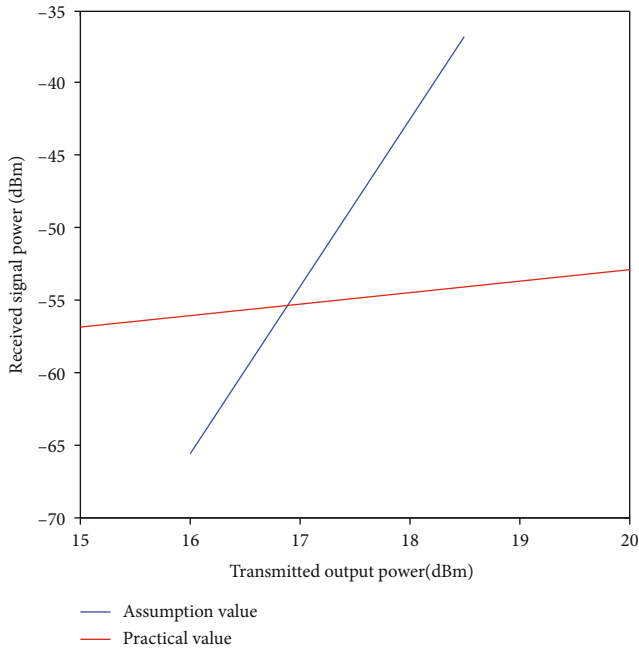


FIGURE 5: Variation of received signal power with transmitted output power.

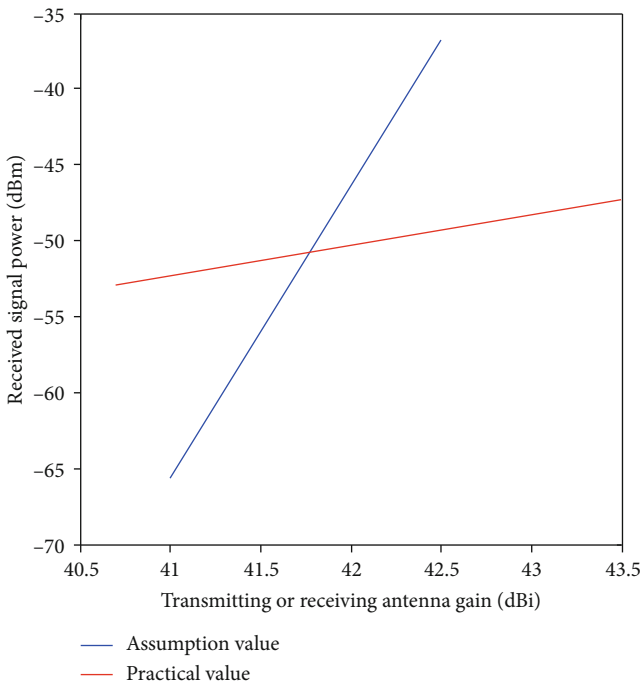


FIGURE 6: Variation of received signal power for transmitting or receiving antenna gain.

distance and frequency are enhanced. From Figures 5 and 6, it is observed that the received signal power values increase with the increase of transmitted output power and transmitting or receiving antenna gain. From Figure 7, it is noticed that the noise power is enhanced with the enhancement of bandwidth. From Figure 8, it is observed that the SNR values

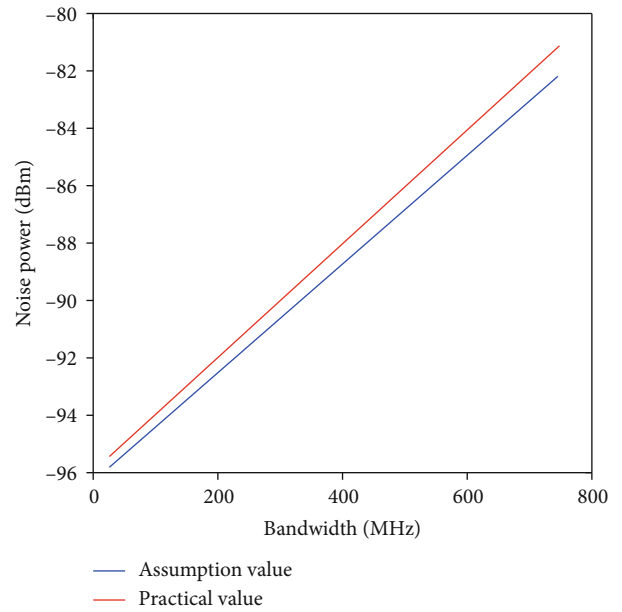


FIGURE 7: Variation of noise power for bandwidth.

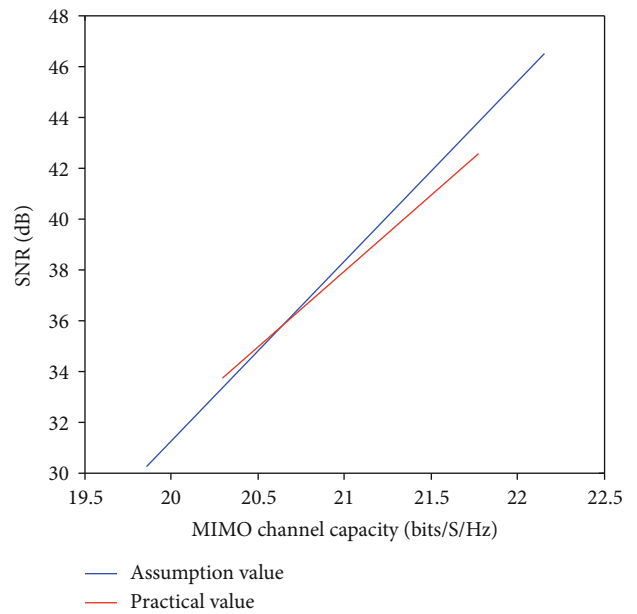


FIGURE 8: Variation of SNR for channel capacity.

are increased with the increase of the MIMO channel capacity.

## 7. Conclusions

In this paper, a link budget of a proposed communication link model has been laid down. From Table 2, it is observed that the SNR value for assumption 2 is 46.464 dB which seems most befitting to obtain a reliable communication link. From Figures 3–6, it would transpire that the received signal power values depend on the distance, frequency, transmitted output power, and transmitting antenna gain or receiving

antenna gain. From Figure 8, it is observed that the SNR values depend on the MIMO channel capacity. From Figure 7, it is seen that the noise power value depend on the bandwidth. The received signal power values increase for lower frequency and minimal distance. The received signal power values are also enhanced for higher values of transmitted power, transmitting antenna gain, and receiving antenna gain. The SNR values increase with the increase of the MIMO channel capacity. The noise power increases with the increase of bandwidth. The SNR values depend on received signal power and noise power. From Figures 5–8, it is observed that the assumption values of the proposed link budget provide better result than that of practical values obtained from the experimental data sheet. From Figures 3 and 4, it is observed that the assumption values reflect better result than that of practical values for lower distance and lower frequency. In Figures 3–6, the assumption values and practical values reflect far relationship as the assumption values render better result than the practical values. A reliable link budget is obtained for lower frequency, minimal distance, minimal bandwidth, higher values of transmitted output power, higher values of transmitting antenna gain, higher values of receiving antenna gain, and higher values of MIMO channel capacity. So, from the overall work performed in this paper, it is concluded that the proposed link budget is highly expected to heighten the reliability of 5G communication in the field of wireless communication for the tropical regions. As a result, the people of these regions will get the benefit of obtaining a high-quality message signal in their domain of communication.

## Data Availability

For practical verification, an experimental data sheet has been included in this paper and this data sheet is collected from Ericsson, namely, Mini Links ML-6363 and ML-6352. The details of specification for ML-6363 and ML-6352 are given in [24, 25] of this paper. This data sheet is demonstrated in Table 4 of this paper.

## Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest.

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