

# Distributed Multicell and Multiantenna Precoding

*Characterization and Performance Evaluation*

**Emil Björnson** and Björn Ottersten      Randa Zakhour and David Gesbert



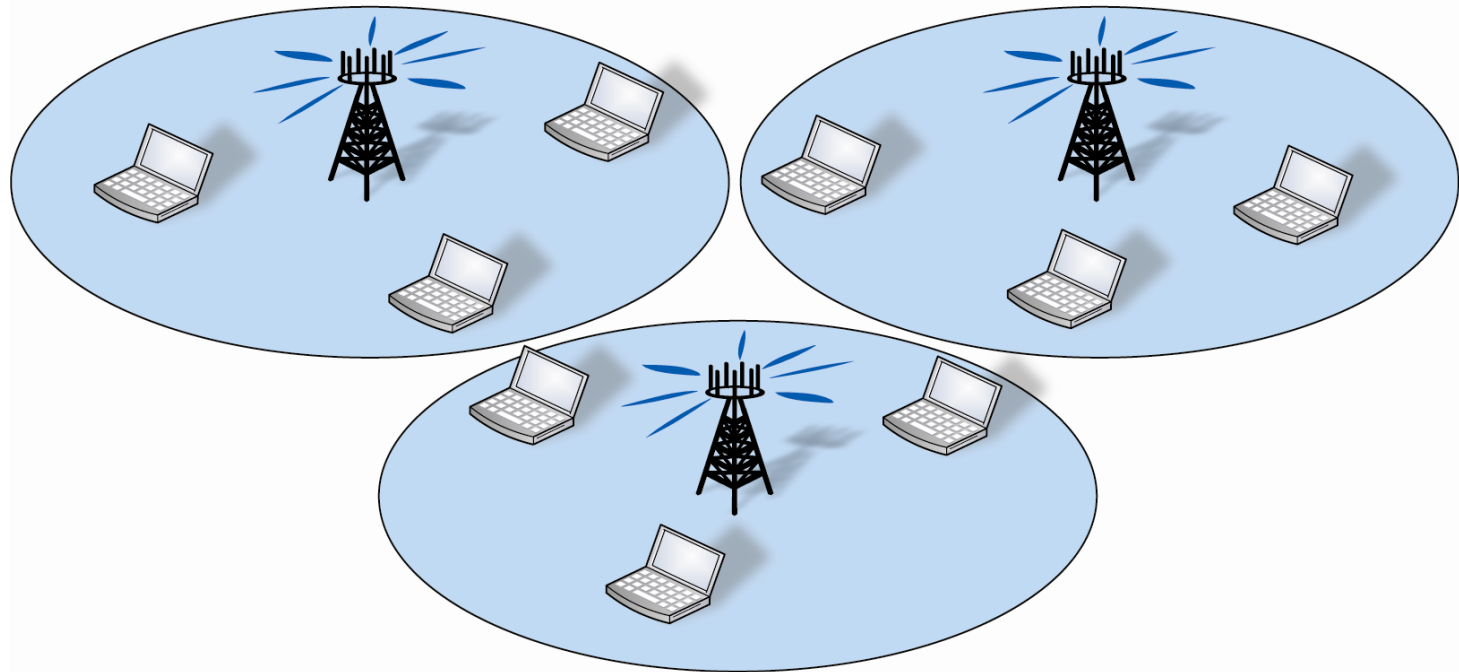
# Content

- Multicell Precoding
  - Users served by multiple cooperating base stations
  - Goal: Control interference with full frequency reuse
  - Also known as:
    - Network MIMO,*
    - Coordinated Multipoint transmission (CoMP)*
- Characterization of Optimal Precoding
  - Instantaneous/statistical channel information (CSI)
- Distributed Precoding Design
  - Motivation and performance evaluation



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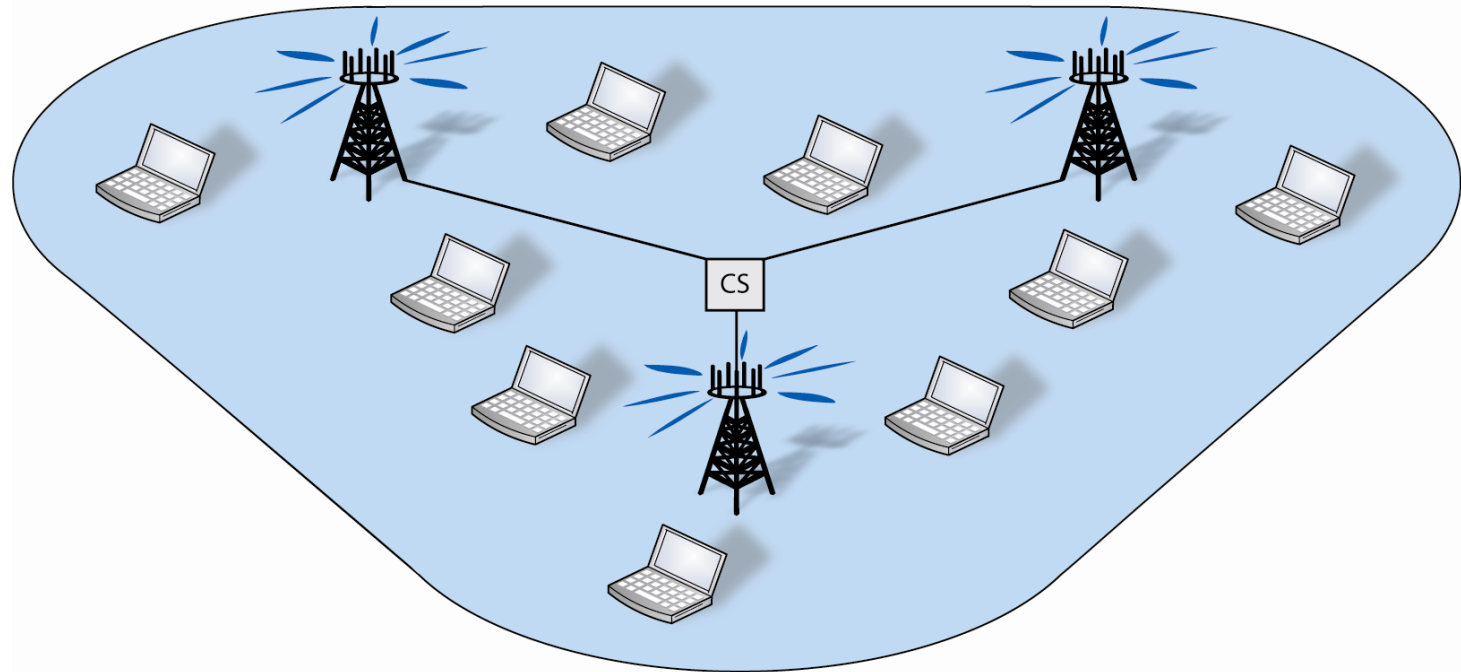
# Intro: No Cooperation



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- Non-Cooperative Multicell Downlink
  - Conventional single cell processing
  - Interference at cell edge users uncontrollable
  - Can be improved by coordinating interference

# Intro: Full Cooperation



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- Centralized Cooperative Multicell Downlink
  - Backhaul network and central station (CS)
  - Centralized processing as “one cell”
  - Capacity in [Yu06], [Weingarten06]  
(MIMO broadcast, special power constraints)

# Intro: Four Main Approaches



Available CSI	Global	<b>Interference Channel</b> (Centralized)  <i>Handle interference by beamforming, scheduling, interference alignment</i>  <i>Game Theory is useful</i>	<b>Network MIMO</b> (Centralized Precoding)  <i>Mimic single-cell MIMO broadcast channel with centralized control</i>
	Local	<b>Interference Channel</b> (Distributed)  <i>Iterative implementations of centralized approaches</i>  <i>Heuristic solutions</i>	<b>Network MIMO</b> (Distributed Precoding)  ?  <i>Considered in our paper</i>
		Local	Global
	<b>Available Data Messages</b>		

# System Model

- $K_t$  multi-antenna base stations
- $K_r$  single-antenna user terminals
- $\mathbf{h}_{jk}$  channel vector from BS<sub>*j*</sub> to MS<sub>*k*</sub>

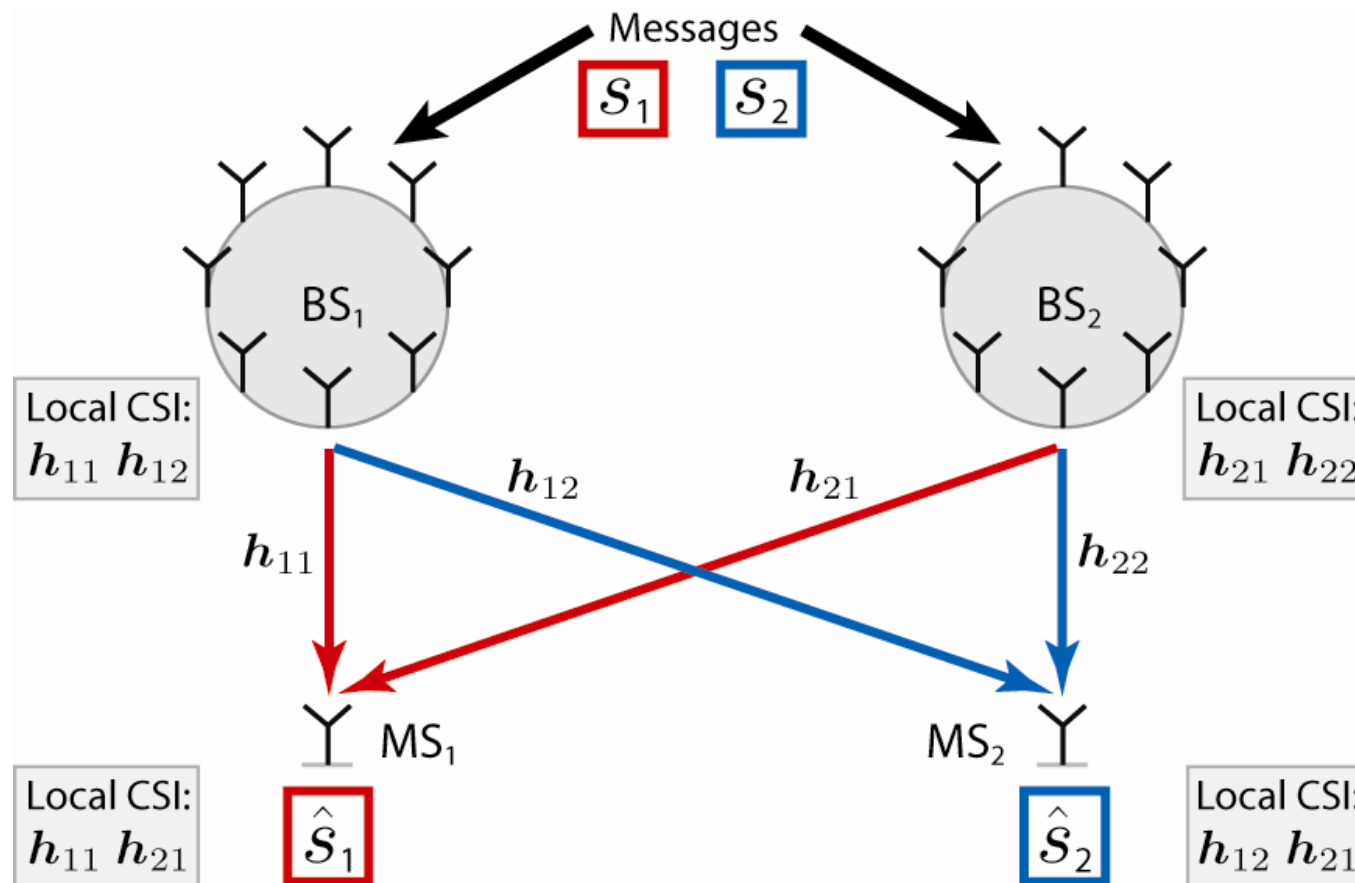
$$K_t = K_r = 2$$

General case in  
[Björnson2010]



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Local CSI  
(estimated on  
reverse links)



# Multicell Precoding

- Symbol  $s_k \in \mathcal{CN}(0, 1)$  Intended for  $\text{MS}_k$ 
  - Available at all transmitters
  - Enables cooperative multicell precoding



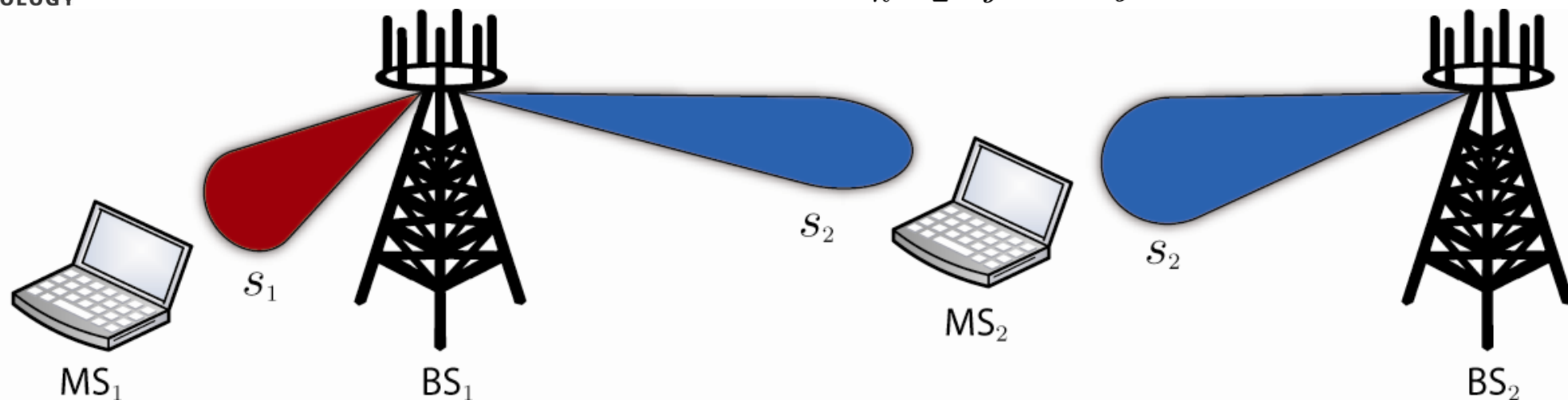
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- Signal from  $\text{BS}_j$ : 
$$\mathbf{x}_j = \sum_{k=1}^{K_r} \boxed{\sqrt{p_{jk}}} \boxed{\mathbf{w}_{jk}} s_k$$

Power allocation

$$\sum_{k=1}^{K_r} p_{jk} \leq P_j$$

Beamformer  
(unit norm)



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Beamformer  
(unit norm)

- SINR at  $\text{MS}_k$ :

$$\text{SINR}_k = \frac{\left| \sum_{j=1}^{K_t} \sqrt{p_{jk}} \mathbf{h}_{jk}^H \mathbf{w}_{jk} \right|^2}{\sum_{\substack{\bar{k}=1 \\ \bar{k} \neq k}}^{K_r} \left| \sum_{j=1}^{K_t} \sqrt{p_{j\bar{k}}} \mathbf{h}_{j\bar{k}}^H \mathbf{w}_{j\bar{k}} \right|^2 + \sigma^2}$$

(perfect synchronization)



# Achievable Rate Region

- Precoding Design
  - Feasible selection of  $\mathbf{w}_{jk}$  and  $p_{jk}$  for all  $j, k$
- Rates:  $R_k = \log_2(1 + \text{SINR}_k)$
- Achievable Rate Region
  - Pairs  $(R_1, R_2)$  achieved by some precoding design
  - Upper boundary: Pareto boundary
- Rate Pairs  $(R_1, R_2)$  on Pareto Boundary
  - Cannot increase  $R_k$  without decreasing  $R_{\bar{k}}$ ,  $\bar{k} \neq k$
  - Maximizes some weighted sum rate
  - Non-constructive



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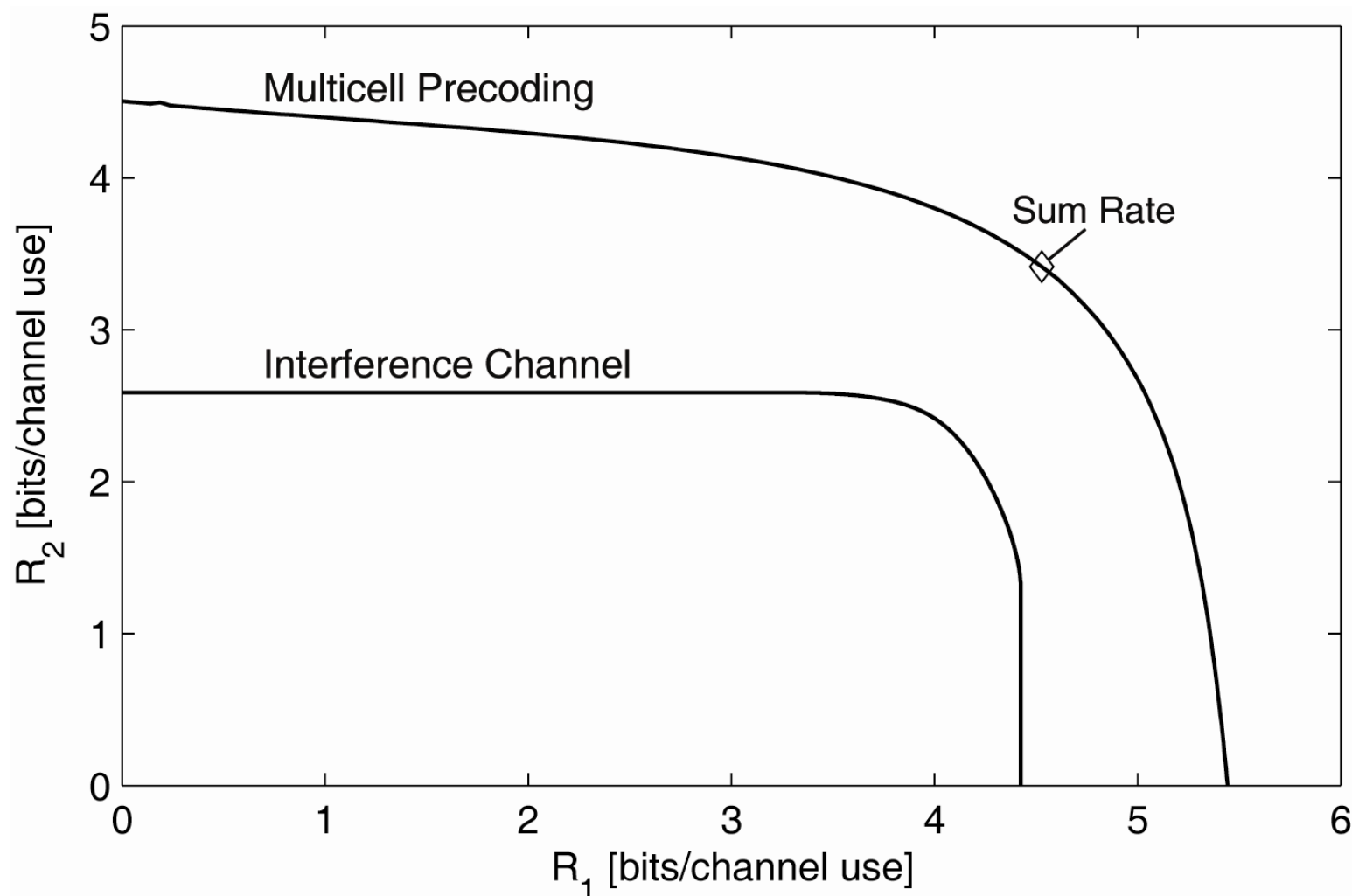
# Achievable Rate Region (2)

- Example: Pareto Boundary



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Large Potential Gain  
of Data Sharing!



# Achievable Rate Region (3)

- How to Attain the Pareto Boundary?
  - Achieved for certain  $\mathbf{w}_{jk}$  and  $p_{jk}$
  - Need strategy to find good ones!
- Classical Beamforming Strategies:
  - Maximum Ratio Transmission:  $\mathbf{w}_{jk}^{(\text{MRT})} = \frac{\mathbf{h}_{jk}}{\|\mathbf{h}_{jk}\|}$
  - Zero-Forcing:  $\mathbf{w}_{jk}^{(\text{ZF})} = \frac{\mathbf{\Pi}_{\mathbf{h}_{j\bar{k}}}^\perp \mathbf{h}_{jk}}{\|\mathbf{\Pi}_{\mathbf{h}_{j\bar{k}}}^\perp \mathbf{h}_{jk}\|}$
  - Only require local transmit-side CSI



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# Achievable Rate Region (4)

- What is Optimal Beamforming?
  - MRT “optimal” at low SNR
  - ZF “optimal” at high SNR



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**Theorem 1.** *Each  $(R_1, R_2)$  on Pareto boundary can be achieved using full power and*

$$\mathbf{w}_{jk} = c_{jk} \mathbf{w}_{jk}^{(\text{MRT})} + d_{jk} \mathbf{w}_{jk}^{(\text{ZF})}, \text{ for some } c_{jk}, d_{jk} \in \mathbb{C}.$$

Generalization of  
[Jorswieck08]

- Conclusion:
  - Beamformer in span of  $\mathbf{w}_{jk}^{(\text{MRT})}, \mathbf{w}_{jk}^{(\text{ZF})}$  (local CSI)
  - Precoding design means finding good  $c_{jk}, d_{jk}$
  - Optimal solution requires global CSI

# Distributed Precoding Design



- Local Precoding using Only Local CSI
  - Limited backhaul signaling and central processing
  - Cannot maximize any global performance measure
  - Only heuristic solutions possible

- Proposal 1: Maximize virtual SINR

$$\mathbf{w}_{jk}^{(\text{LVSINR})} = \arg \max_{\|\mathbf{w}\|=1} \frac{\boxed{|\mathbf{h}_{jk}^H \mathbf{w}|^2}}{\frac{\sigma^2}{p_{jk}} + \boxed{\sum_{\bar{k} \neq k} |\mathbf{h}_{j\bar{k}}^H \mathbf{w}|^2}}$$

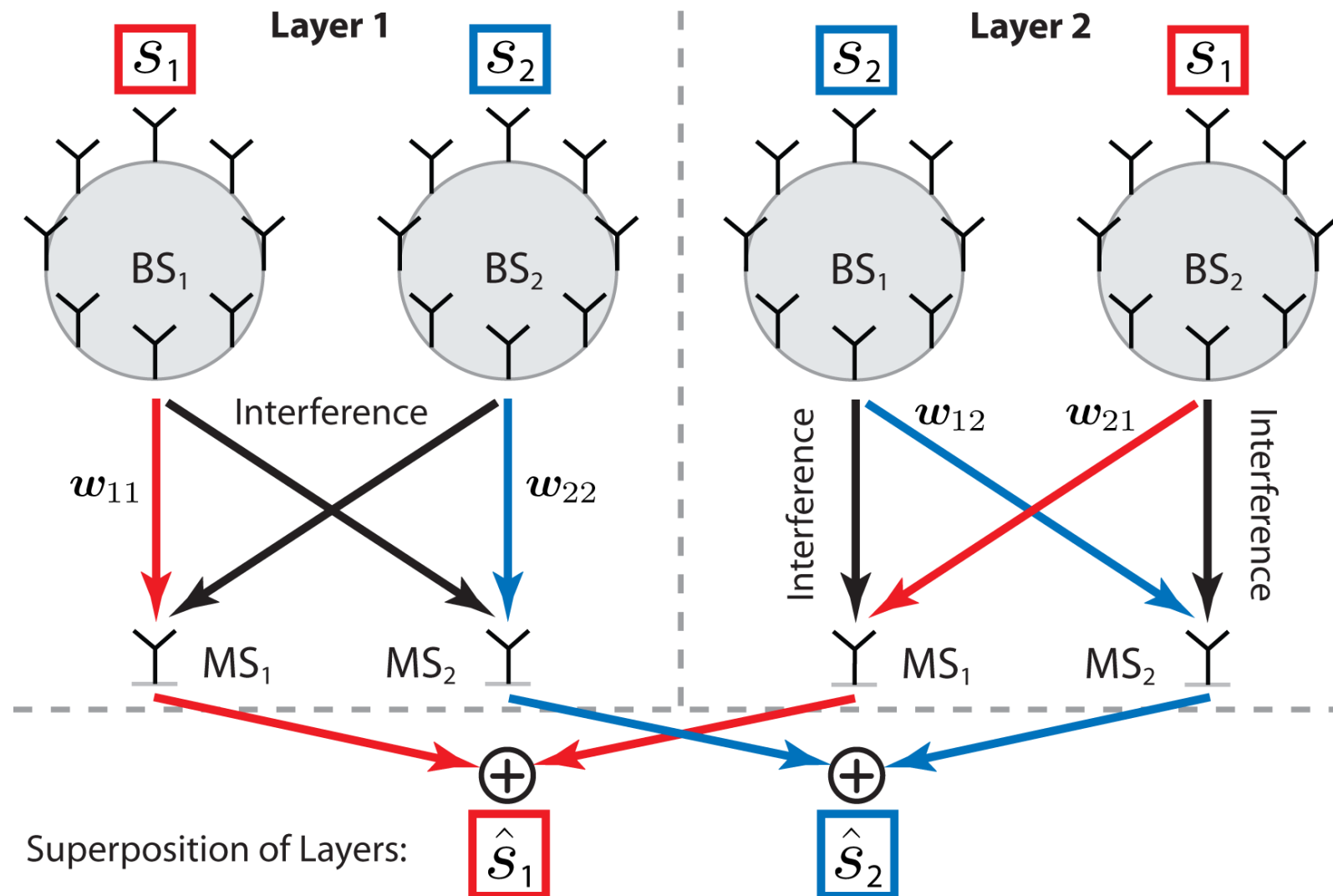
Signal Power

Interference at other users

- Gives heuristic values on  $c_{jk}, d_{jk}$  (Rayleigh quotient)
- Used for interference channels in [Zakhour09]

# Distributed Precoding Design (2)

- Motivation: Layers of Interference Channels



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Summation  
of Outputs  
from two  
Interference  
Channels

Superposition of Layers:

# Distributed Precoding Design (3)

- Heuristic Power Allocation
  - More power allocated to strong users
- Proposal 2: Based on percentage of total gain

$$p_{jk} = \frac{\|\mathbf{h}_{jk}\|^2}{\sum_{\bar{k}=1}^{K_r} \|\mathbf{h}_{j\bar{k}}\|^2} P_j$$

- More advanced power allocation in [Björnson10]
- Minor performance difference



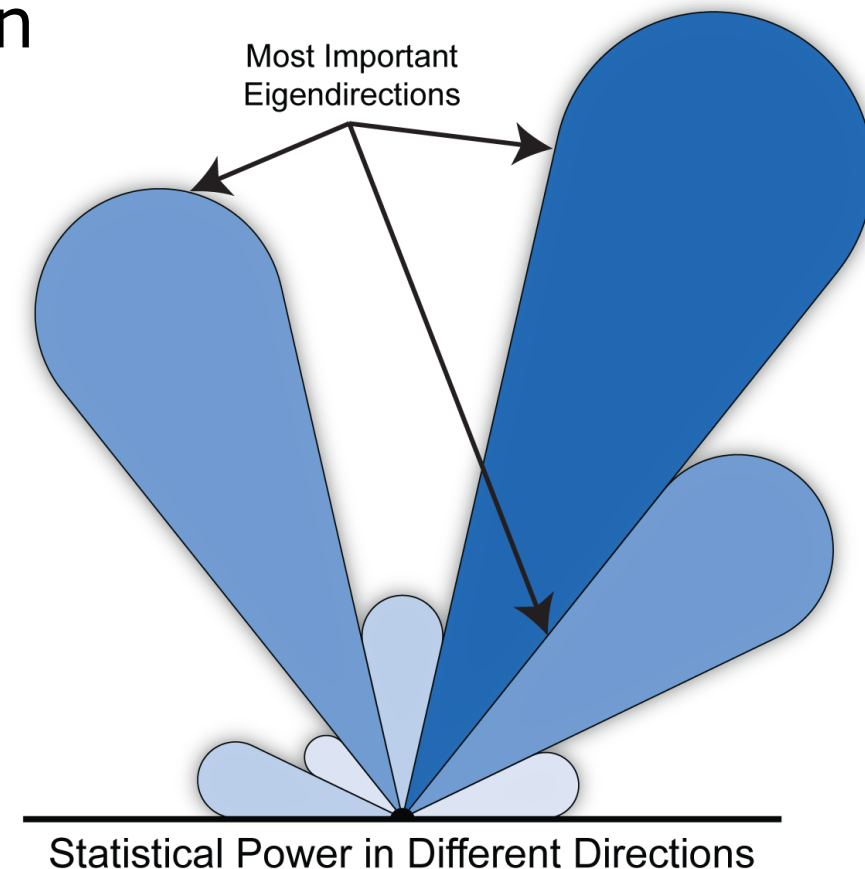
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# Generalization: Statistical CSI

- Similar Analysis with Local Statistical CSI
  - Especially with spatial correlation
- Pareto Characterization
  - Channel vectors not known exactly
  - Depends on dominating eigendirections
- Distributed Precoding
  - Proposed scheme is extendable



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# Generalization: Arbitrary Dim.

- Arbitrary number of BSs and MSs
  - Analyzed in [Björnson2010]
- Characterization of Pareto Boundary
  - Linear combination of MRT and multiple ZF vectors
- Distributed Precoding Design
  - Definition directly extendable
  - Simulations show that it works well



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# Numerical Example

- System Parameters
  - Uncorrelated channels:  $\mathbf{h}_{jk} \in \mathcal{CN}(\mathbf{0}, \beta_{jk}\mathbf{I})$
  - Different average gains  $\beta_{jk}$  (path loss)

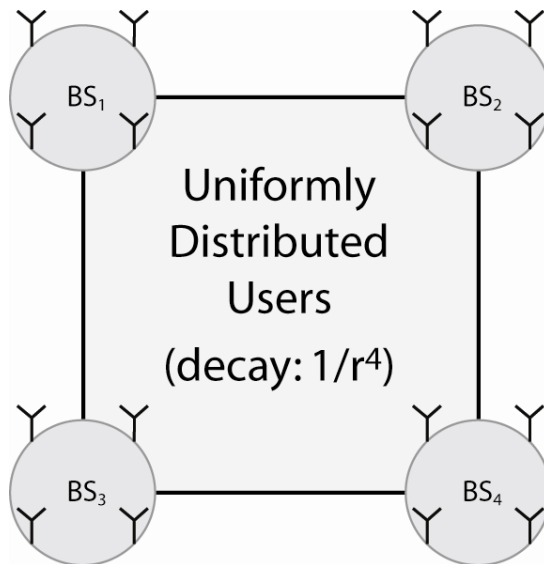
- Precoding Schemes
  - Optimal Beamforming and Power allocation
  - Maximum Ratio Transmission (MRT)
  - Zero-Forcing Beamforming (ZF)
  - Layered VSINR Beamforming (LVSINR)

} Proposed  
Heuristic  
Power  
Allocation



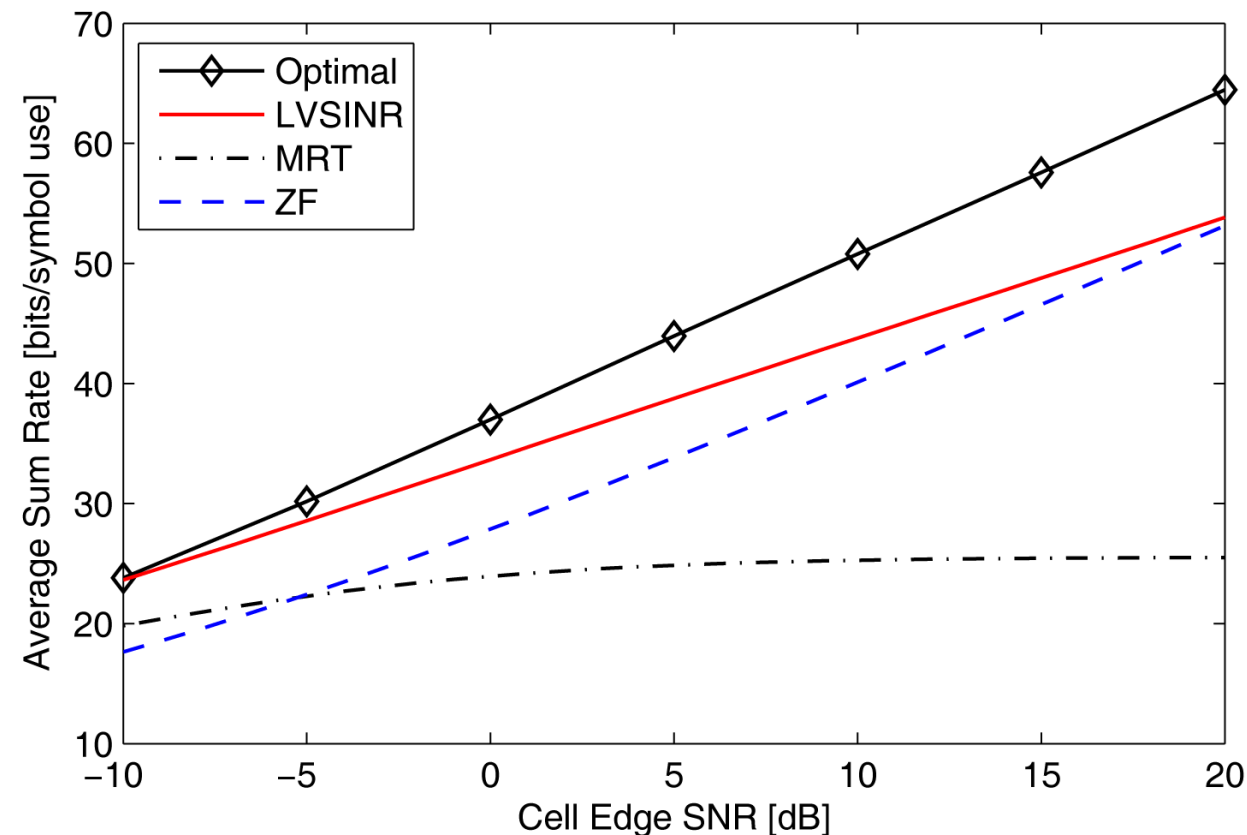
## Numerical Example (2)

- Average Performance in Multicell Area
  - Scenarios with uniformly distributed users
  - Cell edge SNR defined in the center

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### Parameters

4 BS, 4 MS  
4 antennas/BS



# Summary

- Interference Limits Multicell Performance
  - Managed by base station cooperation
  - Special case with data sharing and only local CSI
- Characterization of Pareto Boundary
  - Beamforming: Linear combination of MRT and ZF
  - Generalization of results on interference channels
- Distributed Precoding Design
  - Proposal 1: Maximization of virtual SINRs
  - Proposal 2: Heuristic power allocation
  - Finds reasonable linear combination of MRT and ZF
  - Good performance using only local CSI



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# References

[Björnson10]

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[Zakhour10]

R. Zakhour and D. Gesbert, "Distributed multicell-MIMO precoding using the layered virtual SINR framework," in IEEE Trans. Wireless Commun., submitted for publication.

## ***Rician conditions and Different Levels of Cooperation***

[Björnson09b]

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**Best Paper Award.**

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## ***MISO Interference Channels***

[Jorswieck08]

E. Jorswieck, E. Larsson, "Complete Characterization of the Pareto Boundary for the MISO Interference Channel," IEEE Trans. on Signal Processing, vol. 56, pp. 5292-5296, 2008.

[Zakhour09]

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## ***Broadcast Channel Capacity***

[Yu06]

W. Yu, "Uplink-downlink duality via minimax duality," IEEE Trans. Inf. Theory, vol. 52, pp. 361-374, 2006.

[Weingarten06]

H. Weingarten, Y. Steinberg, and S. Shamai, "The capacity region of the Gaussian multiple-input multiple-output broadcast channel," IEEE Trans. Inf. Theory, vol. 52, pp. 3936-3964, 2006.



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