

# Degrees-of-Freedom of the MIMO Three-Way Channel with Node-Intermittency

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## Abstract

Recent trends in wireless communications motivate the model of a multiple-input multiple-output (MIMO) three-way channel (3WC) with an intermittent node. We study its degrees-of-freedom (DoF) region and sum-DoF. We devise a non-adaptive encoding scheme and show its DoF region (and thus sum-DoF) optimality for non-intermittent 3WCs and its sum-DoF optimality for node-intermittent 3WCs. However, we show by counterexample that adaptive encoding is necessary to achieve the DoF region of node-intermittent 3WCs.

## Introduction

### Trends in Wireless

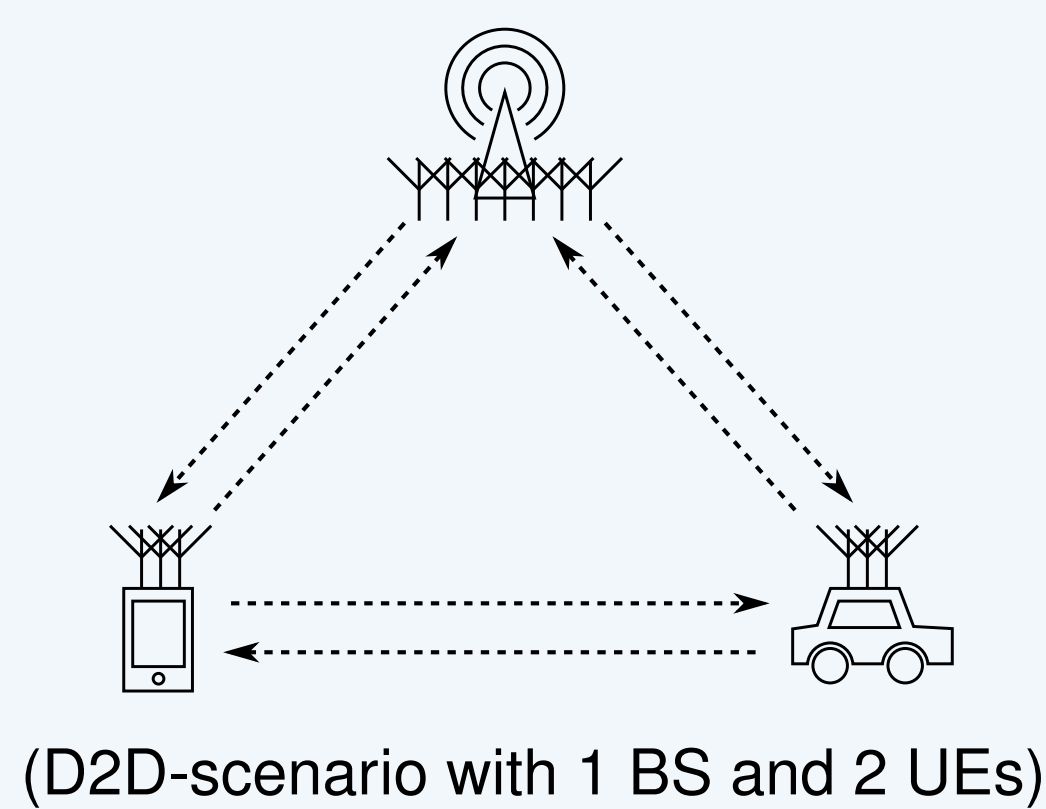
- Higher frequencies (*mmWave*)  
→ Valuable but fragile line-of-sight
- Local communication (*IoT, D2D, caching*)
- Multiple antennas (*MIMO*)
- Interference-limited systems

### Implications for Channel Models

- Intermittency as channel impairment
- Degrees-of-freedom (DoF) perspective
- Multi-way/device-to-device scenarios

### Research Questions

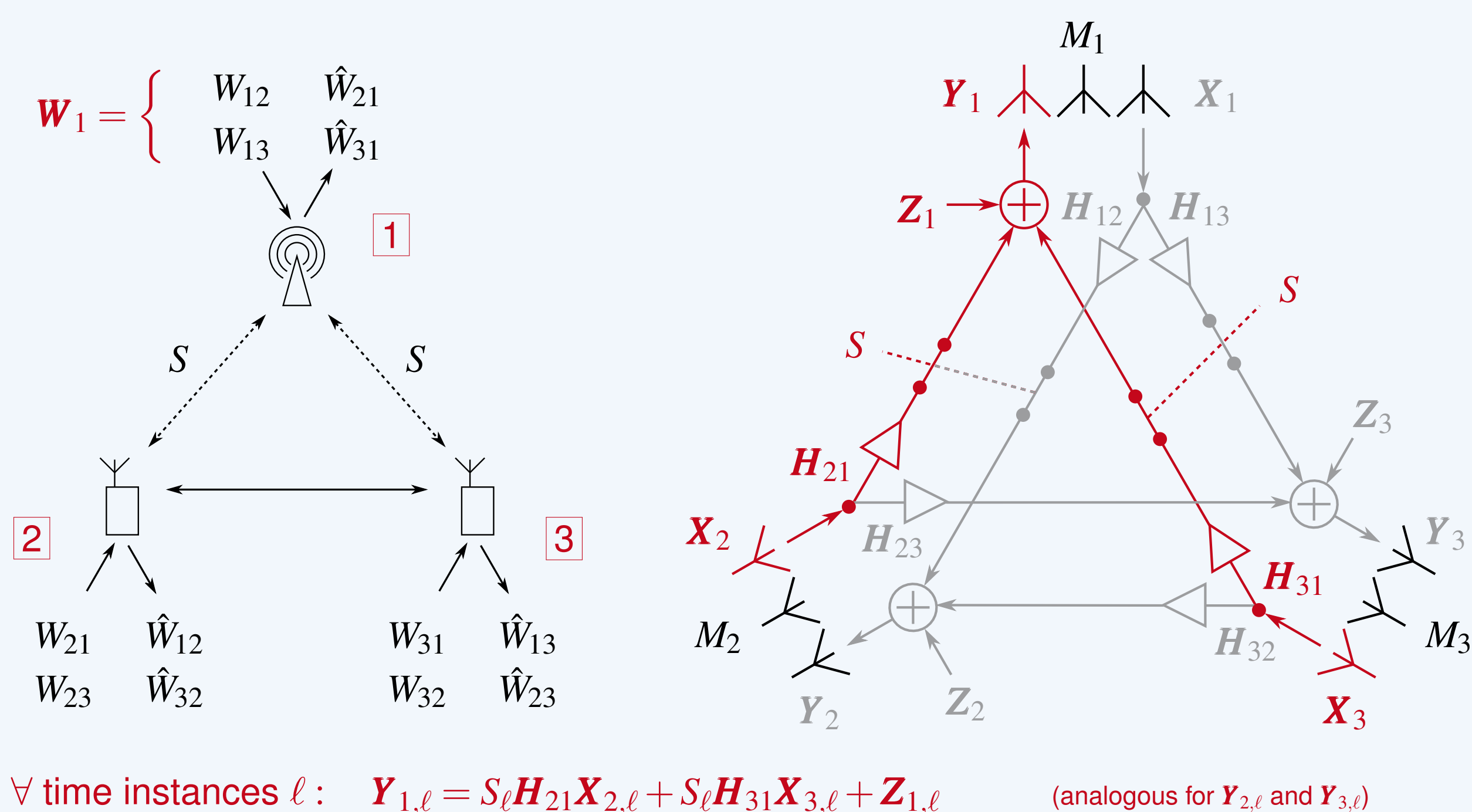
- DoF region  $\mathcal{D}$ ?
- Sum-DoF  $d_{\text{sum}}$ ?
- Necessity of adaptive encoding?



## Contributions — [1] [2]

- Sum-DoF of node-int. MIMO 3WC:  $d_{\text{sum}}^{\text{NI}} = 2\bar{\tau} \min\{M_2, M_3\} + 2\tau \text{mid}\{M_1, M_2, M_3\}$   
→ Non-adaptive encoding suffices  
mid{} ≜ "middle value"
- Necessity of adaptive encoding for DoF region of node-int. MIMO 3WC  $\mathcal{D}^{\text{NI}}$ :  
– Converses on  $\mathcal{D}^{\text{NI}}$  (adaptive) and  $\mathcal{D}_{\text{adapt}}^{\text{NI}}$  (non-adaptive)  
– Adaptive encoding scheme that achieves a  $d \notin \mathcal{D}_{\text{adapt}}^{\text{NI}}$ , ergo  $\mathcal{D}^{\text{NI}} \setminus \mathcal{D}_{\text{adapt}}^{\text{NI}} \neq \emptyset$   
→ Adaptive encoding is necessary
- DoF region  $\mathcal{D}^{\text{NI}}$  of non-int. MIMO 3WC,  $M_1 \geq M_2 \geq M_3$  (wlog):  
$$\max\{d_{12} + d_{13} + d_{23}, d_{12} + d_{13} + d_{32}\} \leq M_1 \quad \max\{d_{21} + d_{13} + d_{23}, d_{12} + d_{31} + d_{32}\} \leq M_2$$
  
$$\max\{d_{21} + d_{31} + d_{32}, d_{21} + d_{31} + d_{23}\} \leq M_1 \quad \max\{d_{31} + d_{32}, d_{13} + d_{23}\} \leq M_3$$
  
$$\min\{d_{12}, d_{13}, d_{21}, d_{23}, d_{31}, d_{32}\} \geq 0$$
  
→ Non-adaptive encoding suffices

## System Model



- Numbers of RX/TX antennas:  $M_1, M_2, M_3$
- Intermittency state sequence  $S^n$  known causally:  $S_\ell \sim \text{Bern}(\tau)$ ,  $\bar{\tau} \triangleq 1 - \tau$
- Gains  $H_{ij}$  known a priori •  $\mathbf{Z}_{i,\ell} \sim \mathcal{C}\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}_{M_i})$ ,  $\sum_{\ell=1}^n \mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{X}_{i,\ell}\|_2^2] \leq nP$ , SNR  $\rho \triangleq \frac{P}{\sigma^2}$
- DoFs  $d_{ij} \triangleq \limsup_{\rho \rightarrow \infty} \frac{R_{ij}(\rho)}{\log(\rho)}$
- Non-adaptive encoding:  $\mathbf{x}_{i,\ell} = \mathcal{E}_{i,\ell}(\mathbf{w}_i)$  • Adaptive encoding:  $\mathbf{x}_{i,\ell} = \mathcal{E}_{i,\ell}(\mathbf{w}_i, \mathbf{y}_{i,1}, \dots, \mathbf{y}_{i,\ell-1})$

## Key References

- [1] J. Neu, A. Chaaban, A. Sezgin, and M.-S. Alouini, "Degrees-of-Freedom of the MIMO Three-Way Channel with Node-Intermittency", arXiv:1708.08161.  
[2] A. Chaaban, A. Sezgin, and M.-S. Alouini, "On the Degrees-of-Freedom of the MIMO Three-Way Channel with Intermittent Connectivity", In: Proc. IEEE Int. Symp. Inf. Theory (ISIT) (2017).  
[3] V. R. Cadambe and S. A. Jafar, "Interference Alignment and Degrees of Freedom of the K-User Interference Channel", In: IEEE Trans. Inf. Theory 54.8 (Aug. 2008), pp. 3425–3441.

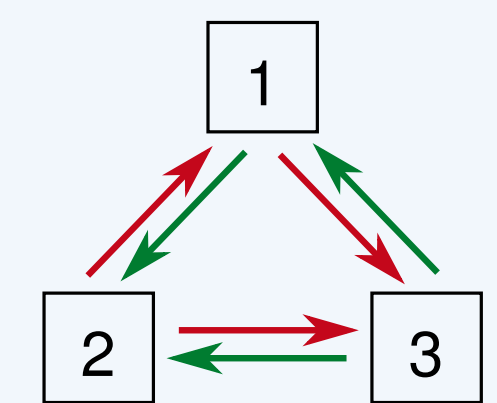
## Converses

Example for  $M_1 \geq M_2 \geq M_3$

Partition the sum-DoF:  $d_{\text{sum}} = d_{13} + d_{23} + d_{21} + d_{12} + d_{32} + d_{31}$

### Genie-aided converse bounds:

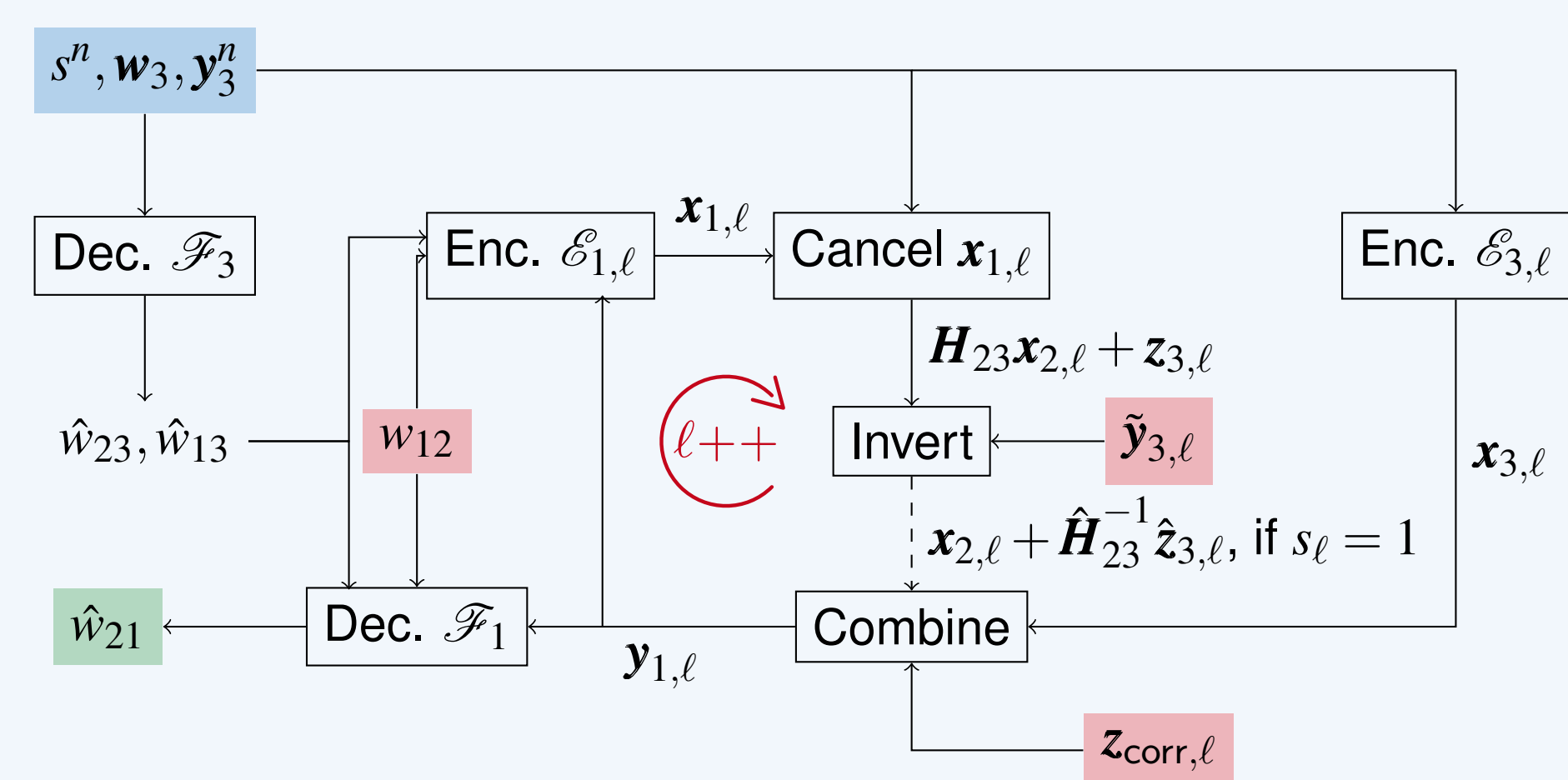
- Enable [3] to act like [1] and decode  $W_{21}$
- Enable [2] to act like [1] and decode  $W_{31}$



### Side information required at [3]:

- Enable decoding:  $W_{12}$
- Compensate antenna size:  $\tilde{\mathbf{Y}}_{3,\ell} \triangleq S_\ell (\tilde{\mathbf{H}}_{23} \mathbf{X}_{2,\ell} + \tilde{\mathbf{Z}}_{3,\ell}) \rightarrow$  stack  $\mathbf{Y}_3^n$  and  $\tilde{\mathbf{Y}}_3^n \rightarrow \hat{\mathbf{Y}}_3^n$
- Noise correction:  $\mathbf{Z}_{\text{corr},\ell} \triangleq \mathbf{Z}_{1,\ell} - S_\ell (\mathbf{H}_{21} \tilde{\mathbf{H}}_{23}^{-1} \tilde{\mathbf{Z}}_{3,\ell})$
- Compensate intermittency

Iteratively recover  $\mathbf{y}_{1,\ell}$  for  $\ell = 1, \dots, n$  using side information  $w_{12}, \hat{\mathbf{y}}_3^n, \mathbf{z}_{\text{corr},\ell}$ , then decode  $\hat{w}_{21}$ :



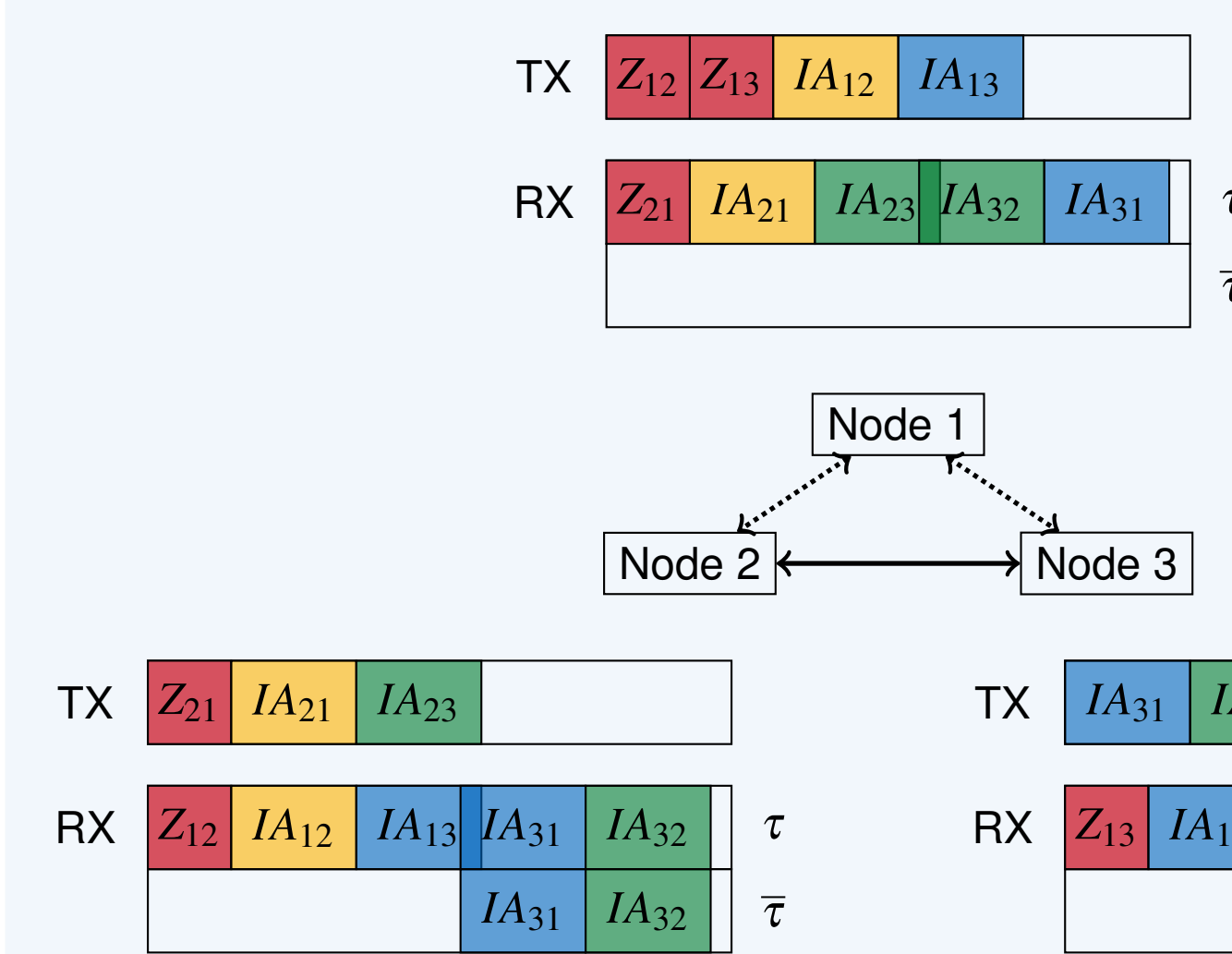
$$n(R_{13} + R_{23} + R_{21} - \epsilon_n) \leq I(W_{13} W_{23} W_{21}; \mathbf{W}_3 \mathbf{Y}_3^n S^n W_{12} \tilde{\mathbf{Y}}_3^n \mathbf{Z}_{\text{corr}}^n) \leq \dots$$

$$= \sum_{\ell=1}^n [I(\mathbf{X}_{1,\ell} \mathbf{X}_{2,\ell}; \hat{\mathbf{Y}}_{3,\ell} | S_\ell) + I(\mathbf{Z}_{\text{corr},\ell}; \hat{\mathbf{Z}}_{3,\ell} | S_\ell)] \leq n(\tau M_2 + \bar{\tau} M_3) \log(\rho) + o\{\log(\rho)\}$$

$$d_{13} + d_{23} + d_{21} \leq \tau M_2 + \bar{\tau} M_3$$

## Achievability

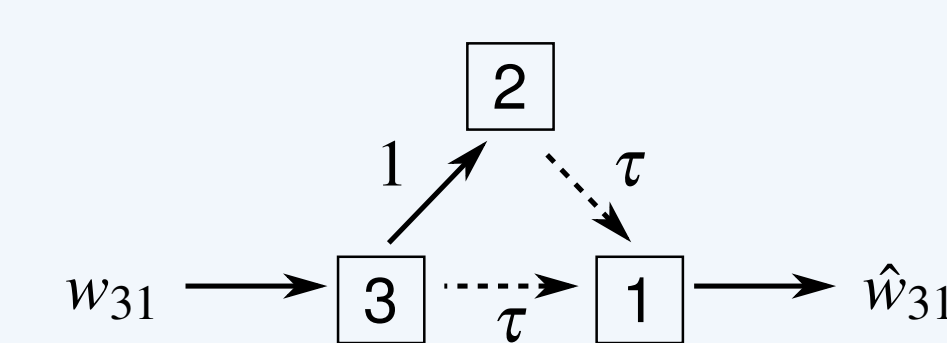
Example for  $M_1 \geq M_2 \geq M_3$



- $ZF_{ij}$ : dim. of  $[i] \rightarrow [j]$  sent using zero-forcing
- $IA_{ij}$ : dim. of  $[i] \rightarrow [j]$  sent using interfer.-alignm. [3]
- System of inequal. in  $d_{ij}$
- Achievable  $\mathcal{D}_{\text{achiev}}$ : Fourier-Motzkin elimination
- Achievable  $d_{\text{sum,achiev}}$ : linear programming

## DoF Region Counterexample

Let  $M_1 \geq M_2 \geq M_3$ ,  $\tau M_2 \geq M_3$ :



### Converse (non-adaptive encoding):

$$n(R_{31} - \epsilon_n) \leq I(W_{31}; \mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{Y}_1^n S^n \mathbf{W}_2)$$

$$\dots \text{ (using } \mathbf{x}_2^n = \mathcal{E}_2^n(\mathbf{w}_2)\text{)}$$

$$\leq n\tau M_3 \log(\rho) + o\{\log(\rho)\}$$

$$d_{31} \leq \tau M_3$$

### Achievability (adaptive encoding):

Multi-hop relaying  $[3] \rightarrow [2] \rightarrow [1]$ , backwards decoding/successive interference canc. at [1]

$$d_{31} = M_3$$

## Conclusion

- The presented non-adaptive encoding scheme ...  
... achieves  $d_{\text{sum}}^{\text{NI}} = d_{\text{sum,achiev}}$  of the node-intermittent channel  
... achieves  $\mathcal{D}^{\text{NI}} = \mathcal{D}_{\text{achiev}}$  of the non-intermittent channel  
→ Non-adaptive encoding suffices for  $d_{\text{sum}}^{\text{NI}}$  and  $\mathcal{D}^{\text{NI}}$   
... constitutes an inner bound  $\mathcal{D}_{\text{achiev}} \subset \mathcal{D}^{\text{NI}}$  for the node-intermittent channel
- But any non-adaptive scheme provides only a strict inner bound for  $\mathcal{D}^{\text{NI}}$   
→ Adaptive encoding is necessary to achieve  $\mathcal{D}^{\text{NI}}$