



An Innovative Secure mmWave M2M Communication Network for Operating Drones

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Changing the World's Energy Future

Arupjyoti Bhuyan



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**Idaho National Laboratory
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83415**

<http://www.inl.gov>

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Arupjyoti (Arup) Bhuyan (INL), Ismail Guvenc, Huaiyu Dai (North Carolina State University)

Need and Significance

- Use of UAVs (Unmanned Aerial Vehicles)/drones for non-military applications (e.g. public safety) is advancing rapidly in the U.S. In parallel, 5G is starting to transform the wireless networks across the world.
- Currently cellular drones utilize wireless networks optimized for ground coverage, that leaks into space for about 400 feet high.
- This research aims to validate that 5G millimeter wave (mmWave) beams with antenna arrays electronically tilted for optimal RF coverage in the sky can be used securely for drones.
- Successful conclusion will lead to higher security, reliability, and spectral efficiency than those achieved with current wireless networks for drone operation.

Approach and Innovative Aspects

- Analyze RF (Radio Frequency) coverage in the sky with the innovative use of mmWave phased arrays aimed towards the drone corridor to harness the power of 5G – multiplicative improvement in data throughput & reduction in latency, and support of massive M2M communications.
- Apply MA (Multiple Access) technology to increase the spectral efficiency by covering a swarm of drones with a single mmWave beam and associated radio resources.
- Design energy efficient low-bit quantization to form mmWave beams for drone operation.
- Use drones' navigation capabilities to significantly improve security by e.g. evading attackers.
- Utilize intra-drone communication to improve reliability as well as security.
- Demonstrate the simulated recovery of a critical infrastructure such as a power grid that requires a black restart with mmWave modeling and experiments .

Publications

1. "SLNR Based Precoding for One-Bit Quantized Massive MIMO in mmWave Communications," in Proc. IEEE Conference on Communications (ICC), May 2019 , STIMS #INL/CON-19-52778.
2. "Energy Efficiency of RSMA and NOMA in Cellular-Connected mmWave UAV Networks," in Proc. IEEE Conference on Communications (ICC), May 2019, , STIMS #INL/CON-9-52776.
3. "Interference avoidance UAV assisted networks: Joint 3D trajectory and power optimization," submitted to IEEE Global Communications Conference (GLOBECOM), Dec. 2019, STIMS #INL/CON-19-54017
4. "Physical layer security for mmWave drone links with NOMA," in 5th NSF Millimeter-Wave (mmWave) RCN Workshop, Jan. 2019 Journal paper to be submitted , "NeuralWave: Gait-based Human Recognition using Commodity WiFi and Deep Learning", May 31, 2018, STIMS #INL/CON-18-52279
5. Enhancing physical layer security for NOMA transmission in mmWave drone networks," in Proc. IEEE Asilomar Conference on Signals, Systems, and Computers, Pacific Grove, CA, Oct. 2018, STIMS #INL/CON-18-52261.

Current Results

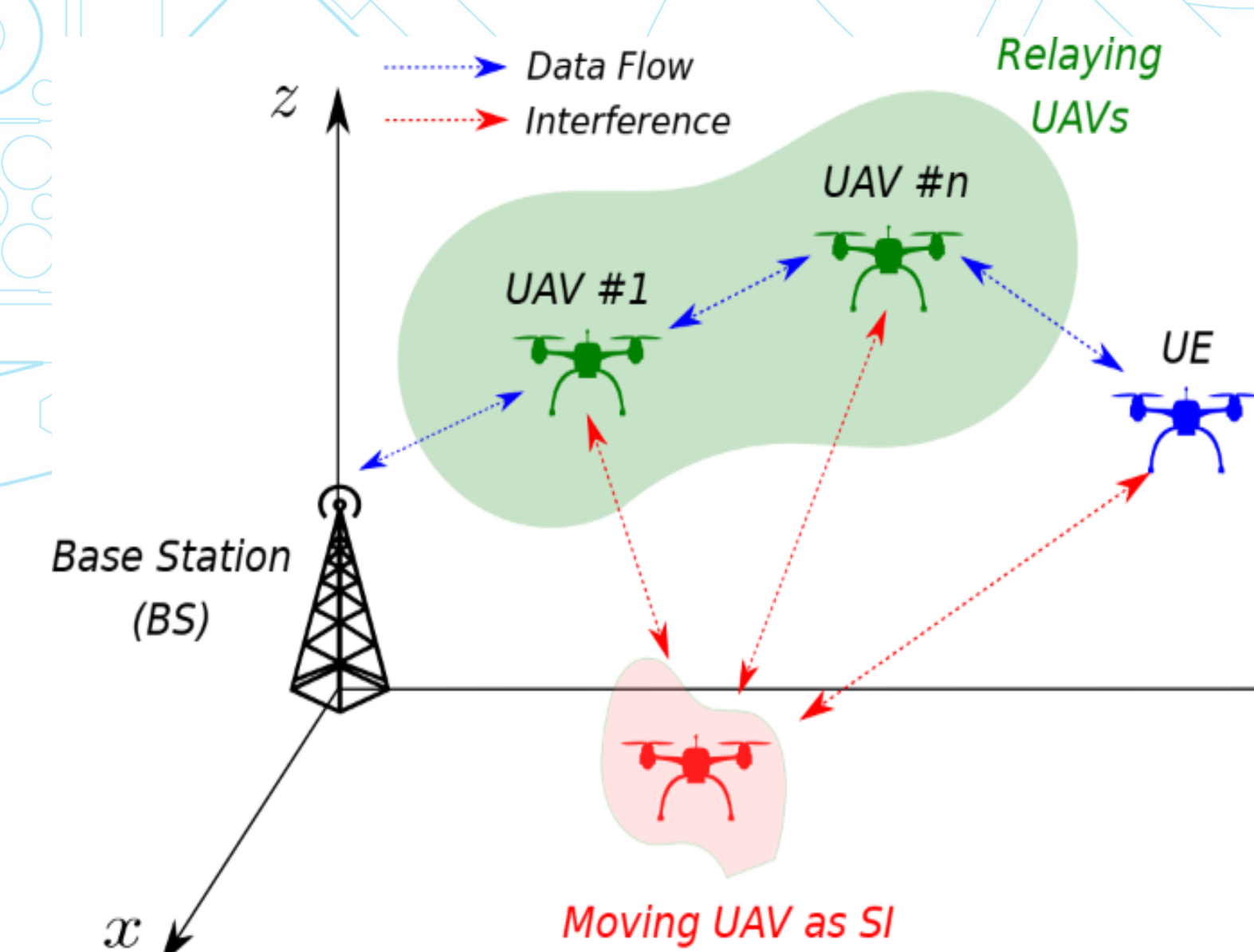


Fig. 1 System model for malicious drone attack on drone wireless network.

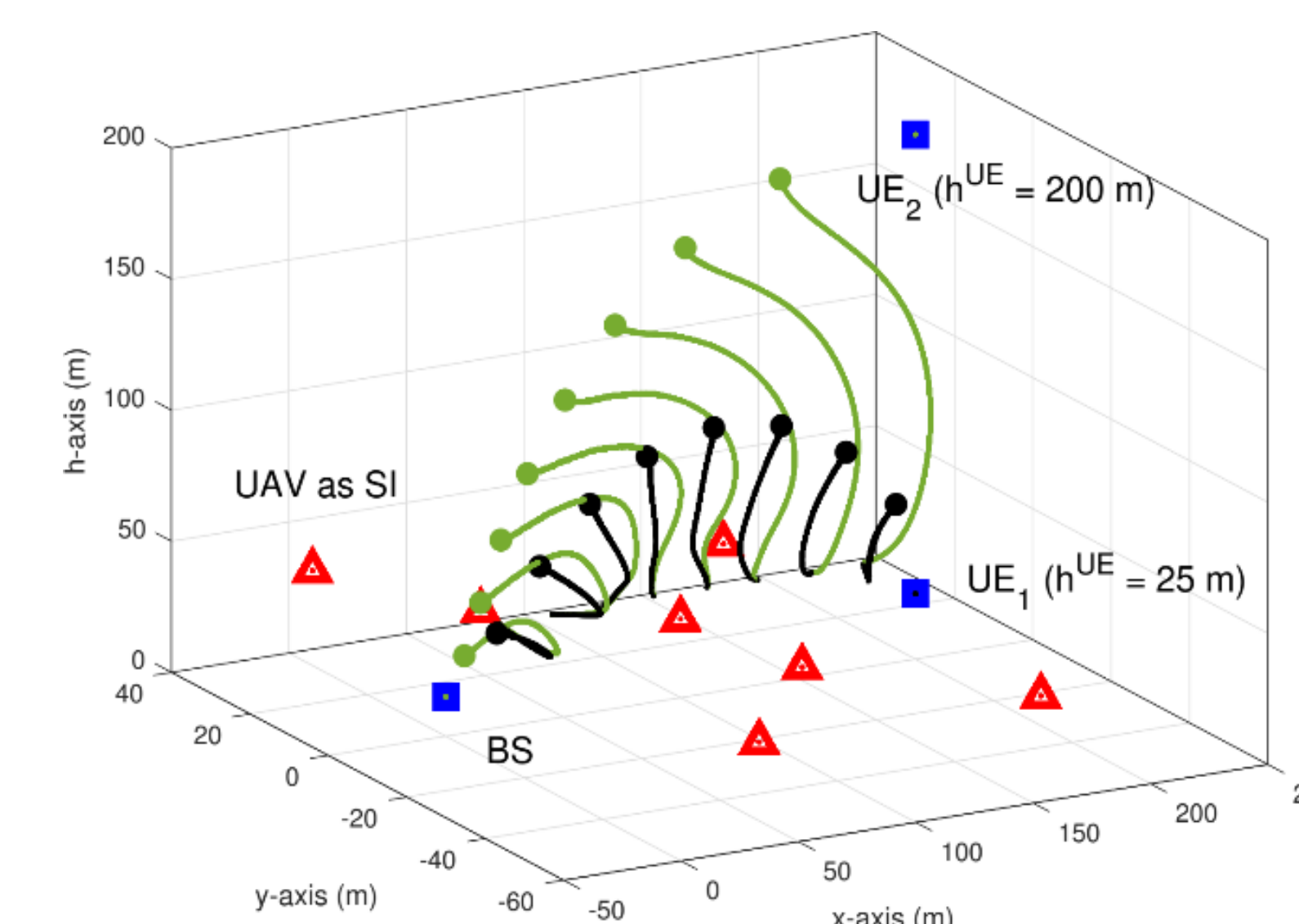


Fig. 2 3D view of optimized trajectories to avoid a malicious attack (e.g., jamming from ground).

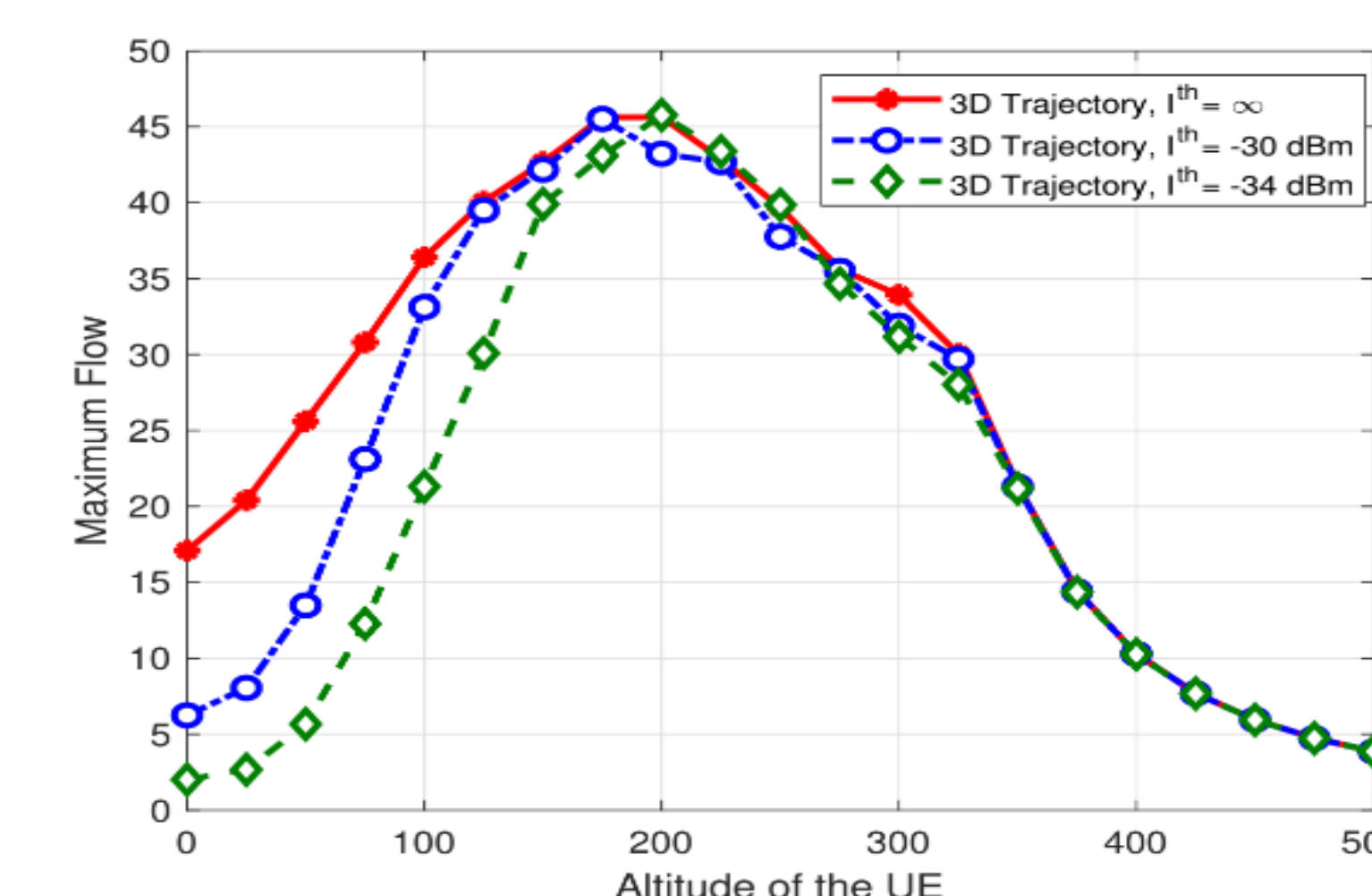


Fig. 3 Maximized data flow as a function of the recipient drone's height.

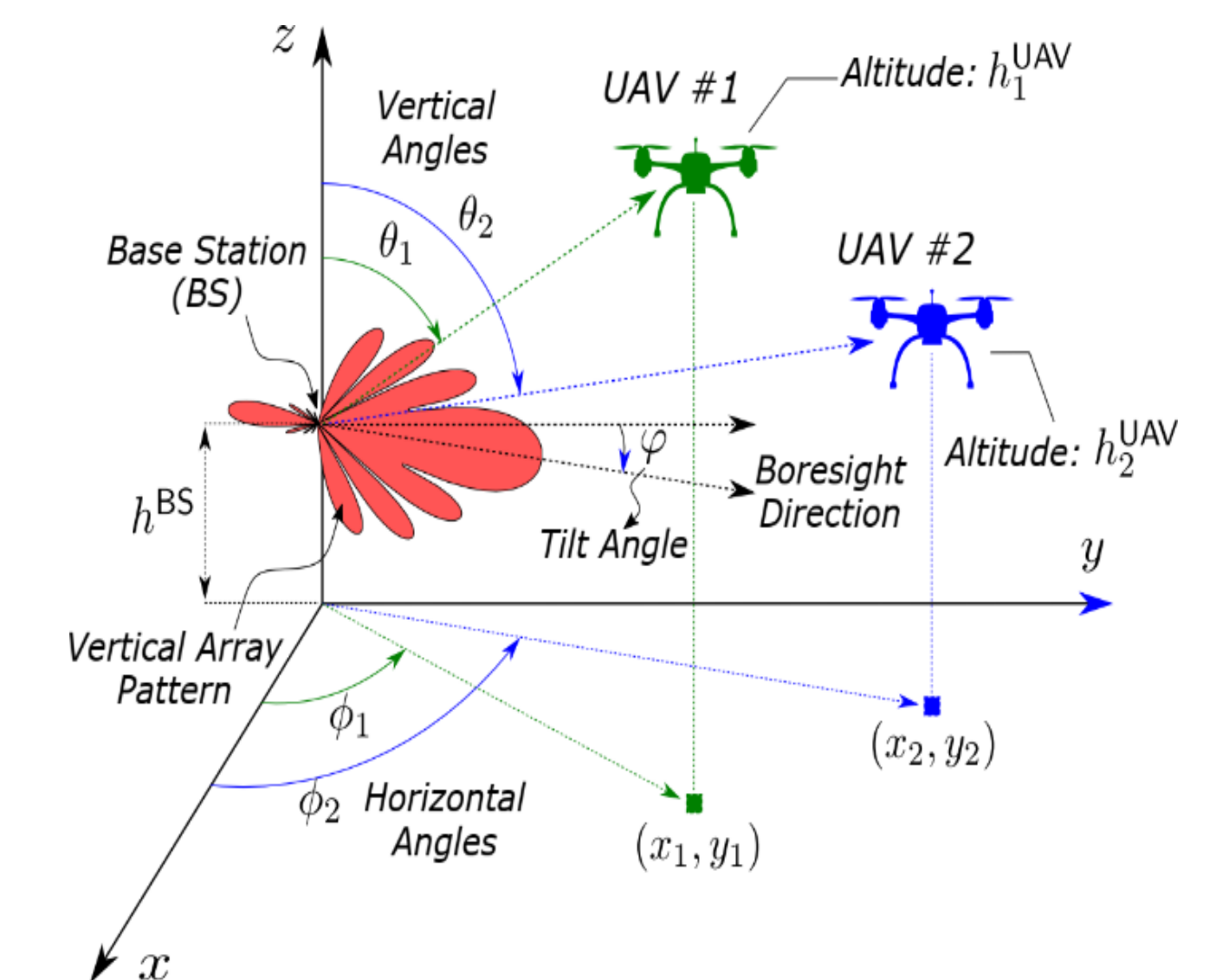


Fig. 4 System model for mmWave serving multiple drones simultaneously with an 8-element antenna array.

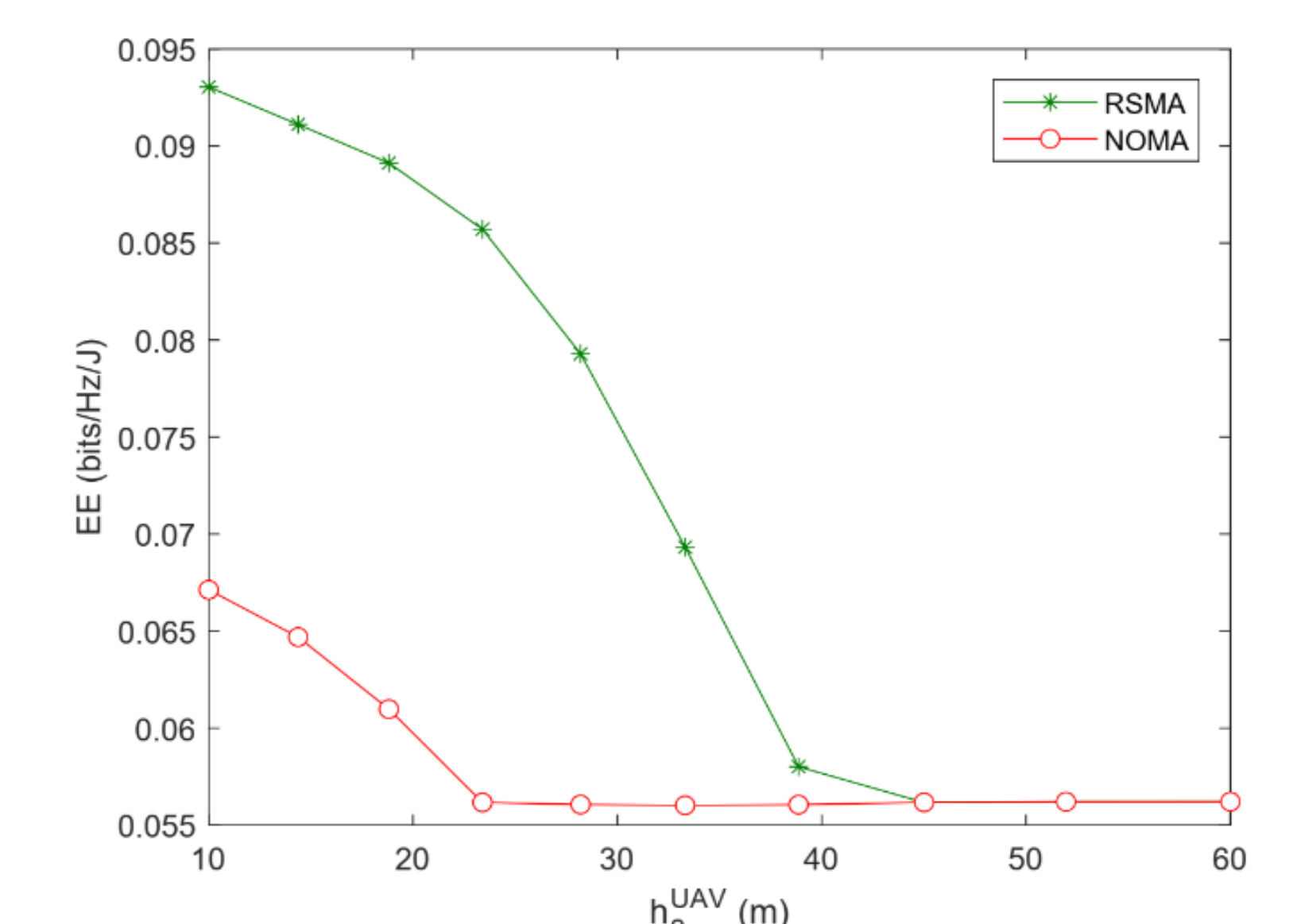


Fig. 5 Sum energy efficiency versus the altitude of the 2nd UAV served with RSMA and NOMA.

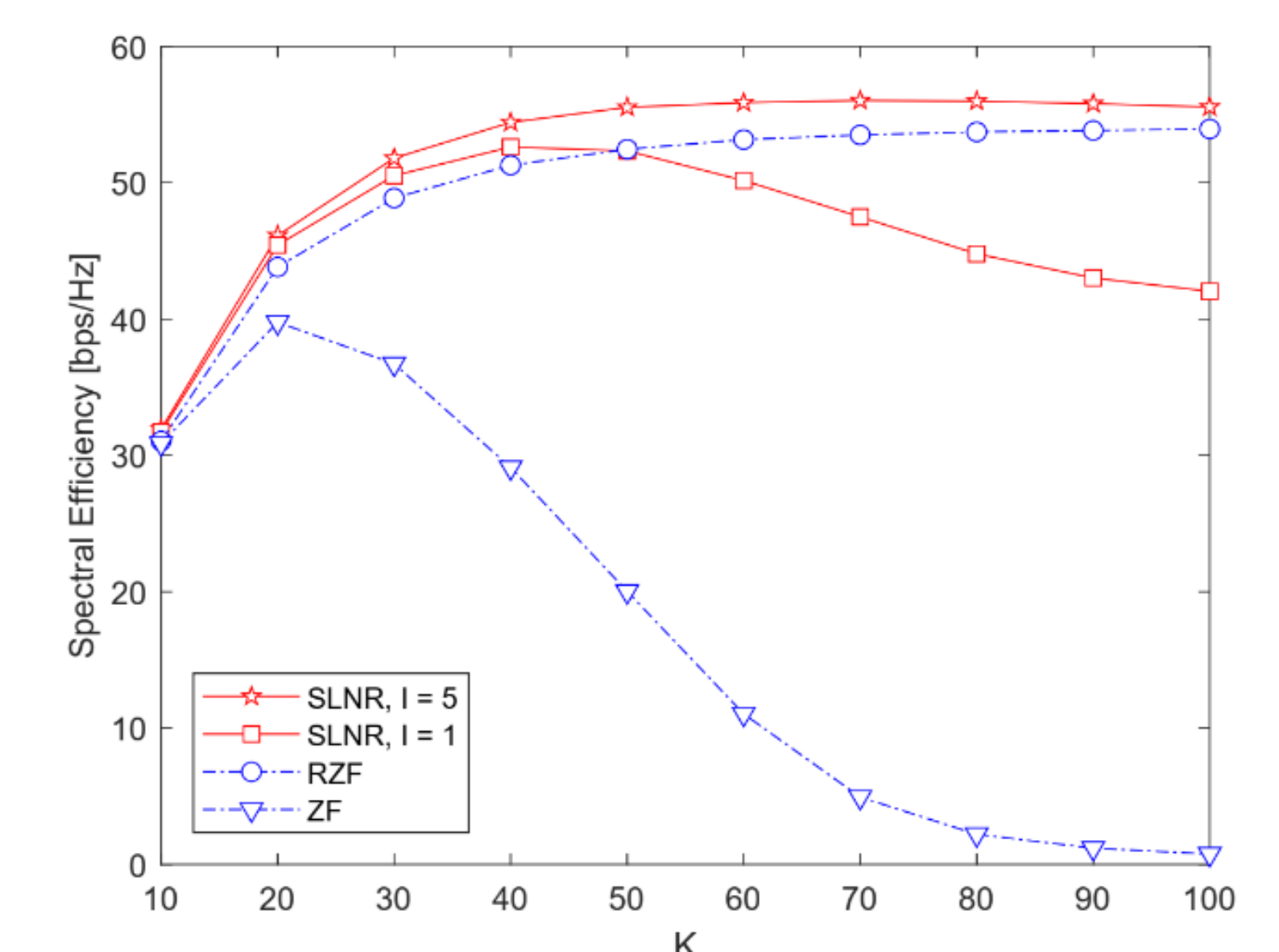


Fig. 6 Spectral efficiency vs number of users (K) at 10 dB SNR (RZF and ZF are conventional).