

# Reconfigurable Intelligent Surface for Green Edge Inference in Machine Learning

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# Outline

- **Motivations**

- Storage, latency, power

- **Two vignettes:**

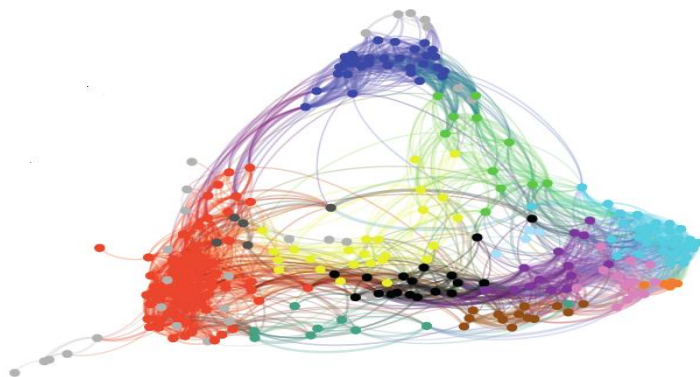
- **Energy-efficient edge cooperative inference**

- ❖ Why inference at network edge?
- ❖ Edge inference via wireless cooperative transmission

- **Reconfigurable intelligent surface empowered edge inference**

- ❖ Why reconfigurable intelligent surface?
- ❖ Joint phase shifts and beamforming vectors design

## *Vignettes A:* **Energy-efficient edge cooperative inference**

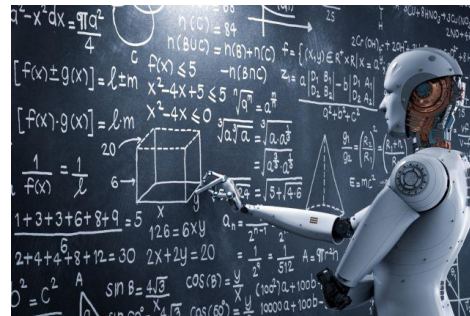


***Why edge inference?***

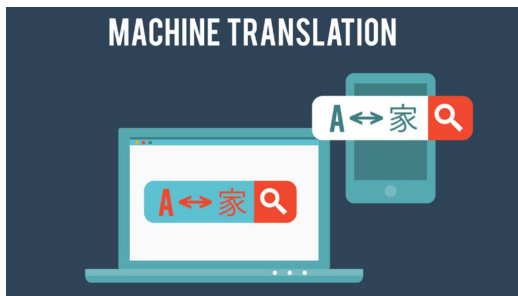
# AI is changing our lives



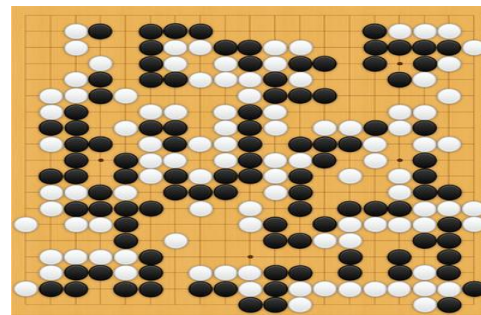
self-driving car



smart robots



machine translation



AlphaGo

# Models are getting larger

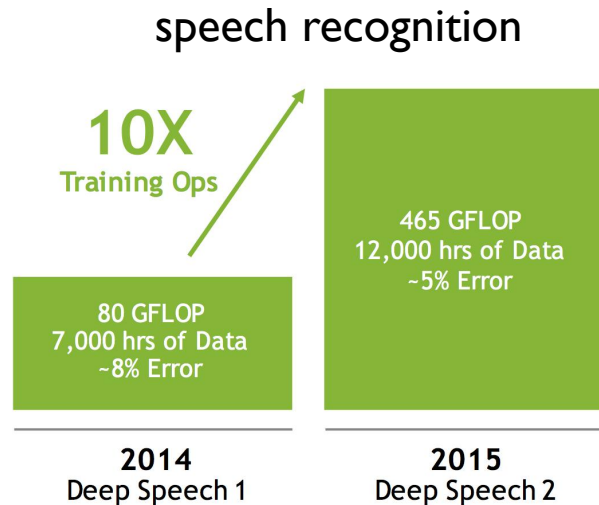
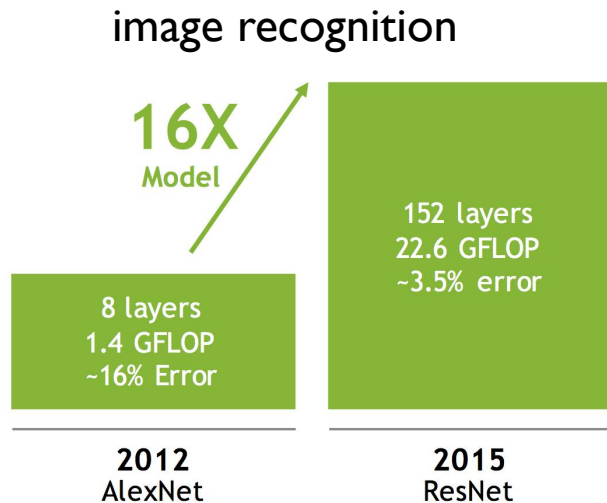


Fig. credit: Dally

# The first challenge: model size

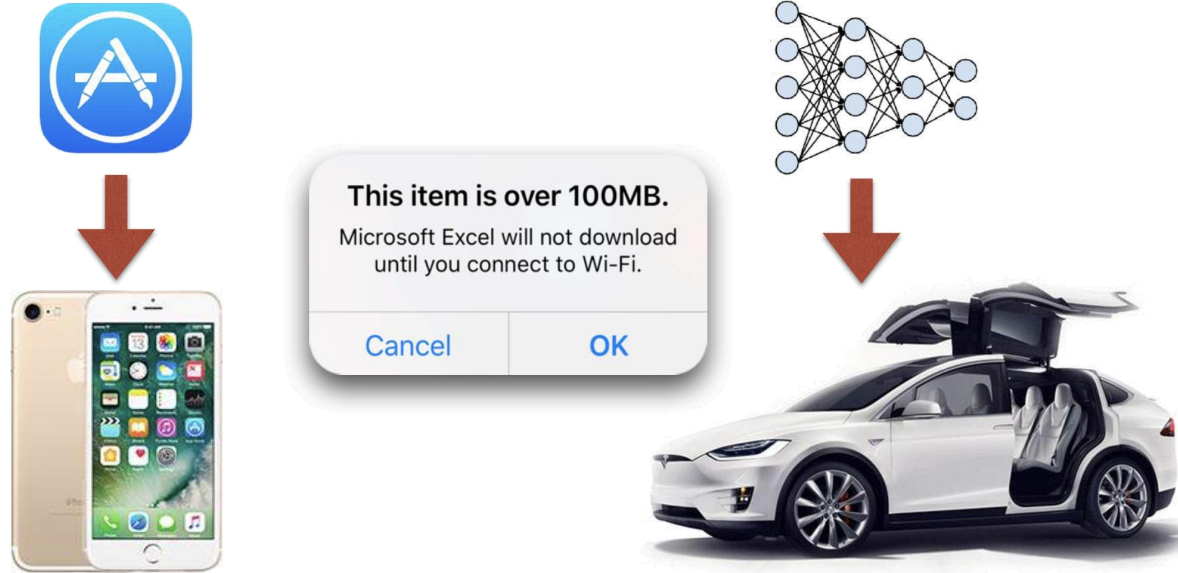
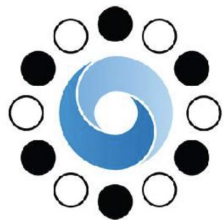


Fig. credit: Han

**difficult to distribute large models through over-the-air update**

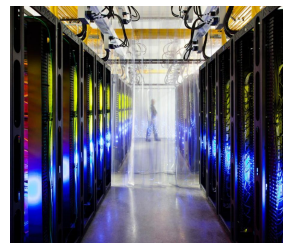
# The second challenge: energy



AlphaGo: 1920 CPUs and 280 GPUs,  
**\$3000** electric bill per game



on mobile: **drains battery**



larger model-more memory reference-more energy



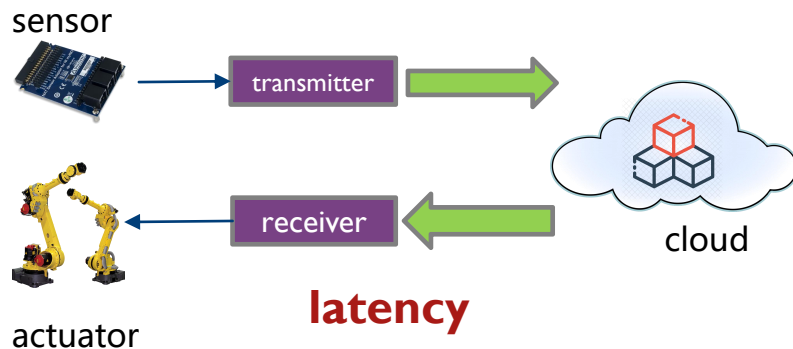
# The third challenge: speed

	Error rate	Training time
ResNet18:	10.76%	2.5 days
ResNet50:	7.02%	5 days
ResNet101:	6.21%	1 week
ResNet152:	6.16%	1.5 weeks

**long training time  
limits ML researcher's  
productivity**



**communication**



***processing at “Edge” instead of the “Cloud”***

*How to make deep learning more energy-efficient?*

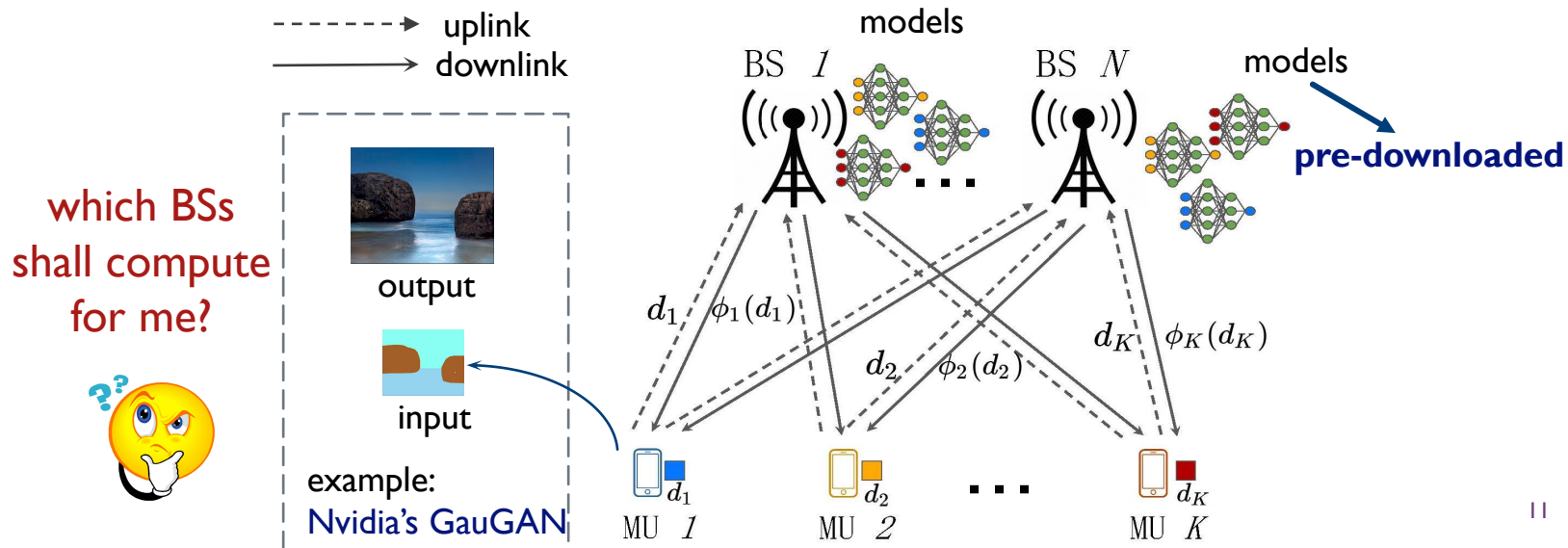


*low power*

# Edge inference for deep neural networks

- **Goal:** energy-efficient edge processing framework to perform deep learning inference tasks at the edge computing nodes

any task can be performed at multiple BSs



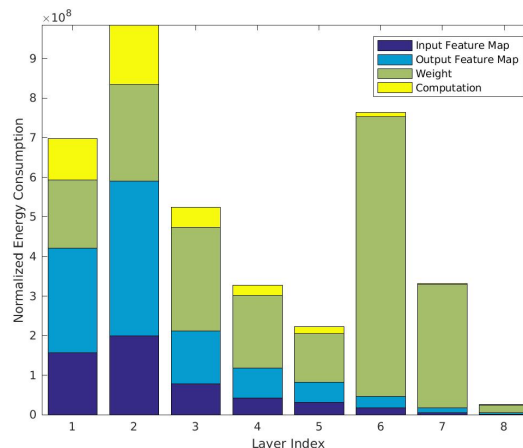
# Computation power consumption

- **Goal:** estimate the power consumption for deep model inference
- Example: power consumption estimation for AlexNet [Sze' CVPR 17]

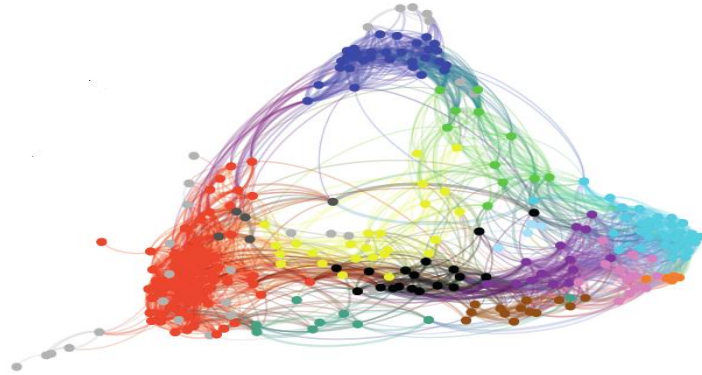
- Cooperative inference tasks at multiple BSs:
  - *Computation replication*: high computation power
  - *Cooperative transmission*: low transmission power

- **Solution:**

- minimize the sum of computation and transmission power consumption

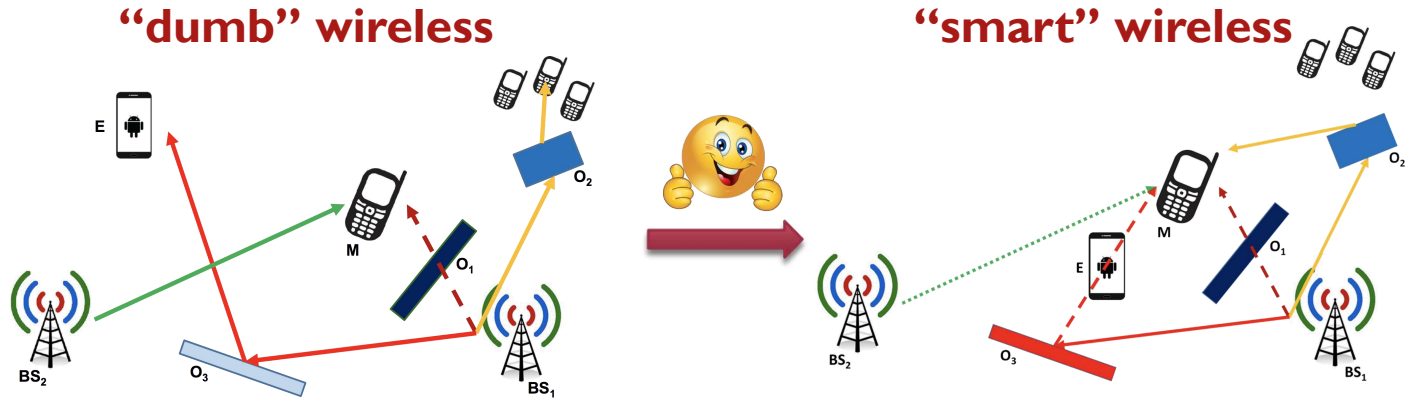


Vignettes *B*: **Reconfigurable intelligent surface**  
empowered **edge inference**



# Smart radio environments

- Current wireless networks: no control of radio waves
  - Perceive the environment as an “unintentional adversary” to communication
  - Optimize only the end-points of the communication network
  - No control of the environment, which is viewed as a passive spectator
- Smart radio environments: reconfigure the wireless propagations



# Reconfigurable intelligent surface

- **Working principle of reconfigurable intelligent surface (RIS):** different elements of an RIS can reflect the incident signal by controlling its amplitude and/or phase for directional signal enhancement or nulling

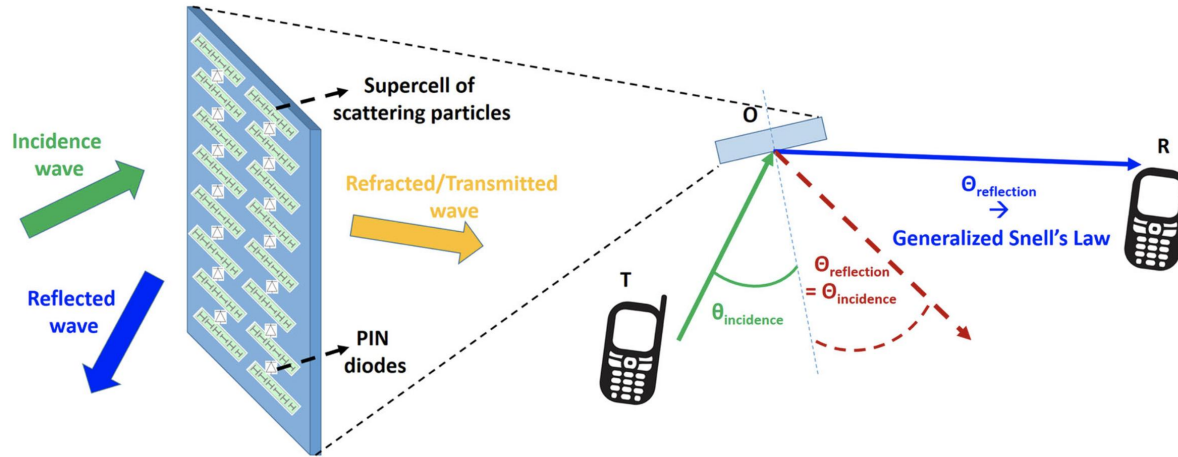
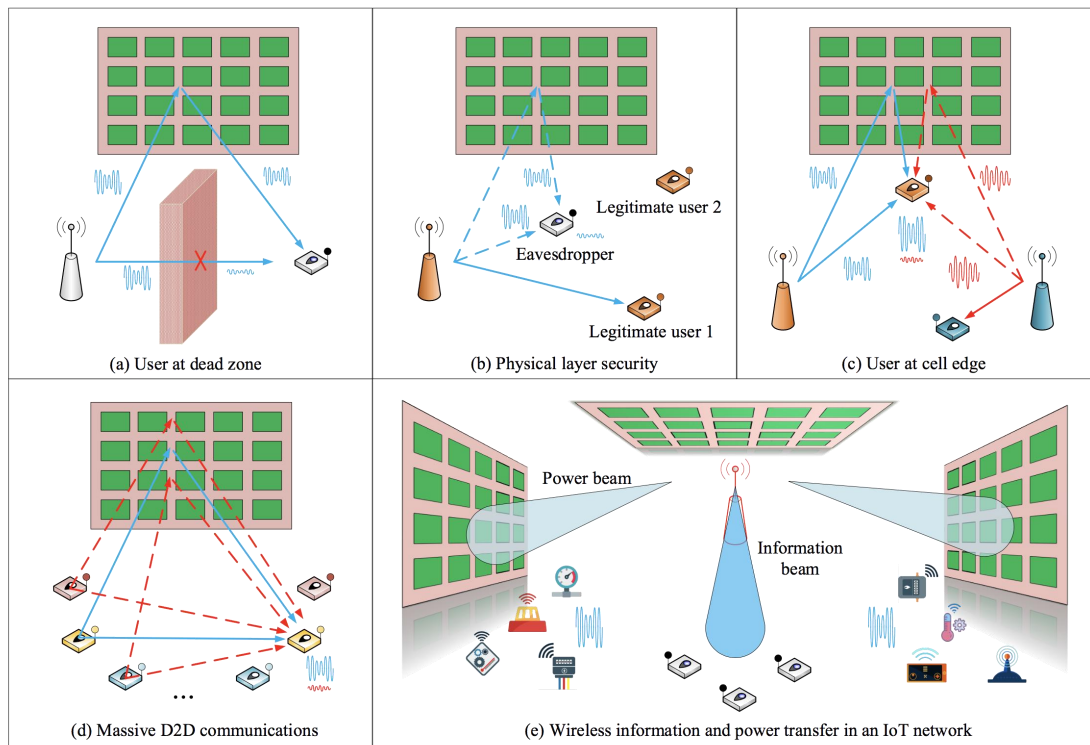


Fig. credit: Renzo

1. no any active transmit module
2. operate in full-duplex mode

improve spectral and energy efficiency

# Reconfigurable intelligent surface meet wireless networks



reconfigurable intelligent surface meets wireless network:

- **edge inference**
- over-the-air computation
- massive MIMO
- wireless power transfer
- D2D communications
- NOMA
- mmWave
- ...

Fig. credit: Wu



# RIS empowered edge inference

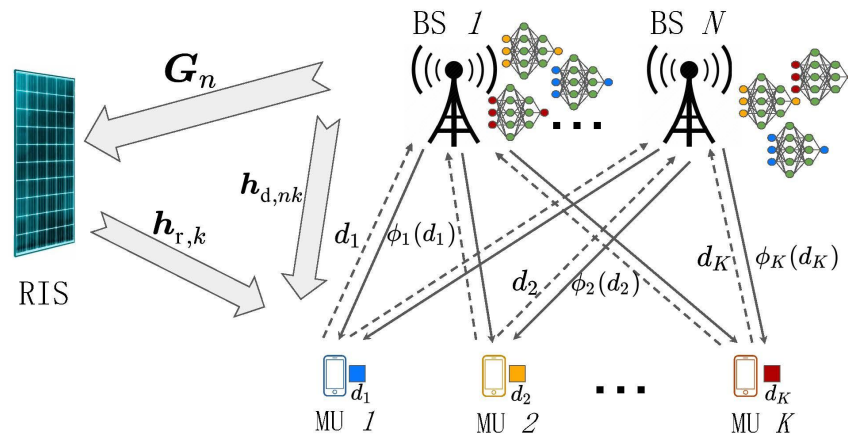
## ■ Reconfigurable Intelligent surface:

- overcoming unfavorable signal propagation conditions
- improving energy efficiency
- tuning phase shifts with  $M$  passive elements

$$\Theta = \text{diag}(\beta\theta_1, \dots, \beta\theta_M)$$

with  $\theta_m = e^{j\varphi_m}$ ,  $\varphi_m \in [0, 2\pi)$

w.l.o.g. assuming  $\beta = 1$



**RIS aided edge inference system:**  
build controllable wireless environments  
to decrease transmit signal power

# Signal model

- **Proposal:** MU  $k$ 's task performed at multiple BSs  $\mathcal{A}_n \subseteq \mathcal{K}$

- transmitted signal at BS  $n$ :  $\mathbf{x}_n = \sum_{k \in \mathcal{A}_n} \mathbf{v}_{nk} s_k$
- beamforming vector for  $\phi_k(d_k)$  at BS  $n$ :  $\mathbf{v}_{nk}$
- signal received by MU  $k \in \mathcal{K}$ :  $y_k = \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \mathbf{g}_{nk}^H \mathbf{x}_n + z_k$
- equivalent channel response from BS  $n$  to MU  $k$ :

$$\mathbf{g}_{nk} = \underbrace{\mathbf{h}_{d,nk}}_{\text{direct link}} + \underbrace{\mathbf{G}_n^H \mathbf{\Theta}^H \mathbf{h}_{r,k}}_{\text{reflected link}}$$

- the SINR for MU  $k \in \mathcal{K}$ :

$$\text{SINR}_k(\mathcal{A}) = \frac{\left| \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \mathbf{1}_{\{k \in \mathcal{A}_n\}} \mathbf{g}_{nk}^H \mathbf{v}_{nk} \right|^2}{\sum_{l \neq k} \left| \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \mathbf{1}_{\{l \in \mathcal{A}_n\}} \mathbf{g}_{nk}^H \mathbf{v}_{nl} \right|^2 + \sigma_k^2}$$

# Energy-efficient edge inference

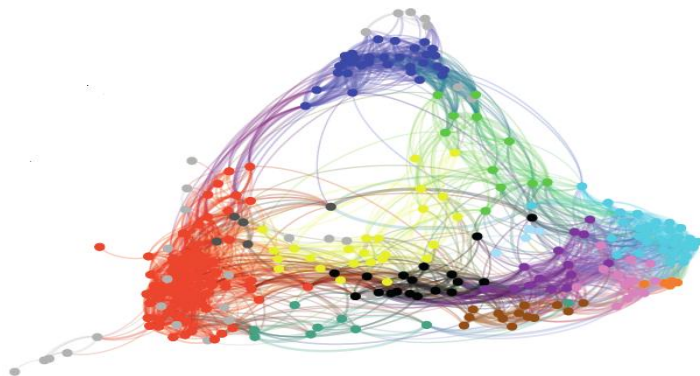
- **Goal:** minimize total power consumption under QoS constraints

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{P}_{\text{original}} : & \underset{\mathcal{A}, \{\mathbf{v}_{nk}\}, \Theta}{\text{minimize}} && \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \frac{1}{\eta_n} \sum_{k \in \mathcal{A}_n} \|\mathbf{v}_{nk}\|_2^2 + \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \sum_{k \in \mathcal{A}_n} P_{nk}^c && \text{sum of communication and} \\
 & \text{subject to} && \text{SINR}_k(\mathcal{A}) \geq \gamma_k, \quad \forall k \in \mathcal{K}, && \text{computation power consumption} \\
 & && \sum_{k \in \mathcal{A}_n} \|\mathbf{v}_{nk}\|_2^2 \leq P_{n,\max}, \quad \forall n \in \mathcal{N}, && \text{(maximum transmit power)} \\
 & && |\theta_m| = 1, \quad \forall m \in \mathcal{M}, && \text{phase shifts design}
 \end{aligned}$$

- **Challenges:**

- 1. mixed combinatorial optimization problem because of combinatorial variable  $\mathcal{A} = (\mathcal{A}_1, \dots, \mathcal{A}_N)$
- 2. coupled optimization variables in SINR constraints
- 3. nonconvex unit-modulus constraints induced by the RIS

# **Group Sparsity Inducing and An Alternating Framework**



# Group sparse beamforming for power minimization

- **Proposal:** group sparse beamforming approach to get rid of the combinatorial variable  $\mathcal{A}$
- **Key observation:**  $k \notin \mathcal{A}_n \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{v}_{nk} = \mathbf{0}$

$$\sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \sum_{k \in \mathcal{A}_n} P_{nk}^c \Rightarrow \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \sum_{k \in \mathcal{K}} \mathbf{1}_{\{\mathbf{v}_{nk} = \mathbf{0}\}} P_{nk}^c$$

$$\text{SINR}_k(\mathcal{A}) = \frac{\left| \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \mathbf{1}_{\{k \in \mathcal{A}_n\}} \mathbf{g}_{nk}^H \mathbf{v}_{nk} \right|^2}{\sum_{l \neq k} \left| \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \mathbf{1}_{\{l \in \mathcal{A}_n\}} \mathbf{g}_{nk}^H \mathbf{v}_{nl} \right|^2 + \sigma_k^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{SINR}_k = \frac{\left| \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \mathbf{g}_{nk}^H \mathbf{v}_{nk} \right|^2}{\sum_{l \neq k} \left| \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \mathbf{g}_{nk}^H \mathbf{v}_{nl} \right|^2 + \sigma_k^2}, \text{ where } \mathbf{v}_{nk} = \mathbf{0} \text{ if } k \notin \mathcal{A}_n$$

# Group sparse beamforming for power minimization

- **Proposal:** exploit group sparsity structure beamforming to get rid of the combinatorial variable  $\mathcal{A}$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{P}_{\text{original}} : \underset{\mathcal{A}, \{\mathbf{v}_{nk}\}, \Theta}{\text{minimize}} \quad & \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \frac{1}{\eta_n} \sum_{k \in \mathcal{A}_n} \|\mathbf{v}_{nk}\|_2^2 + \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \sum_{k \in \mathcal{A}_n} P_{nk}^c \\ \text{subject to} \quad & \text{SINR}_k(\mathcal{A}) \geq \gamma_k, \quad \forall k \in \mathcal{K}, \\ & \sum_{k \in \mathcal{A}_n} \|\mathbf{v}_{nk}\|_2^2 \leq P_{n,\max}, \quad \forall n \in \mathcal{N}, \\ & |\theta_m| = 1, \quad \forall m \in \mathcal{M}, \end{aligned}$$

$$k \notin \mathcal{A}_n \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{v}_{nk}^{\text{DL}} = \mathbf{0}$$



$$\begin{aligned} \underset{\{\mathbf{v}_{nk}\}, \Theta}{\text{minimize}} \quad & \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \sum_{k \in \mathcal{K}} \frac{1}{\eta_n} \|\mathbf{v}_{nk}\|_2^2 + \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \sum_{k \in \mathcal{K}} \mathbf{1}_{\{\mathbf{v}_{nk}=\mathbf{0}\}} P_{nk}^c \\ \text{subject to} \quad & \text{SINR}_k \geq \gamma_k, \quad \forall k \in \mathcal{K}, \\ & \sum_{k \in \mathcal{K}} \|\mathbf{v}_{nk}\|_2^2 \leq P_n^{\max}, \quad \forall n \in \mathcal{N}, \\ & |\theta_m| = 1, \quad \forall m \in \mathcal{M}. \end{aligned}$$

# An alternating framework

- **Stage I:** updating beamforming vector  $\{\mathbf{v}_{nk}\}$  with fixed RIS phase shifts  $\Theta$

$$\begin{aligned} & \underset{\{\mathbf{v}_{nk}\}, \Theta}{\text{minimize}} && \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \sum_{k \in \mathcal{K}} \frac{1}{\eta_n} \|\mathbf{v}_{nk}\|_2^2 + \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \sum_{k \in \mathcal{K}} \mathbf{1}_{\{\mathbf{v}_{nk}=\mathbf{0}\}} P_{nk}^c \\ & \text{subject to} && \text{SINR}_k \geq \gamma_k, \quad \forall k, \\ & && \sum_{k \in \mathcal{K}} \|\mathbf{v}_{nk}\|_2^2 \leq P_n^{\max}, \quad \forall n, \\ & && |\theta_m| = 1, \quad \forall m. \end{aligned}$$

mixed  $\ell_{1,2}$ -norm for  
group sparsity inducing



$$\begin{aligned} & \underset{\{\mathbf{v}_{nk}\}}{\text{minimize}} && \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \sum_{k \in \mathcal{K}} \frac{1}{\eta_n} \|\mathbf{v}_{nk}\|_2^2 + \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \sum_{k \in \mathcal{K}} P_{nk}^c \|\mathbf{v}_{nk}\|_2 \\ & \text{subject to} && \text{SINR}_k \geq \gamma_k, \quad \forall k, \\ & && \sum_{k \in \mathcal{K}} \|\mathbf{v}_{nk}\|_2^2 \leq P_n^{\max}, \quad \forall n, \\ & && |\theta_m| = 1, \quad \forall m. \end{aligned}$$

# An alternating framework

- **Stage II:** updating phase-shift matrix  $\Theta$  with fixed beamforming vectors

define  $\mathbf{a} = [\theta_1, \dots, \theta_M]^H$ ,  $\mathbf{w}_{kl} = \text{diag}(\mathbf{h}_{r,k}^H) \tilde{\mathbf{G}} \mathbf{v}_l$ ,  $b_{kl} = \mathbf{h}_k^H \mathbf{v}_l$ ,  $\mathbf{R}_{kl} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{w}_{kl} \mathbf{w}_{kl}^H & \mathbf{w}_{kl} b_{kl}^H \\ \mathbf{w}_{kl}^H b_{kl} & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\bar{\mathbf{a}} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{a} \\ t \end{bmatrix}$ ,

find  $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{C}^M$  **inhomogeneous QCQP**

subject to 
$$\frac{|b_{kk} + \mathbf{a}^H \mathbf{w}_{kk}|^2}{\sum_{l \neq k} |b_{kl} + \mathbf{a}^H \mathbf{w}_{kl}|^2 + \sigma_k^2} \geq \gamma_k, \forall k,$$
  
 $|a_m|^2 = 1, \forall m.$

**homogeneous QCQP**

find  $\bar{\mathbf{a}} \in \mathbb{C}^{M+1}$

subject to 
$$\frac{\bar{\mathbf{a}}^H \mathbf{R}_{kk} \bar{\mathbf{a}} + |b_{kk}|^2}{\sum_{l \neq k} \bar{\mathbf{a}}^H \mathbf{R}_{kl} \bar{\mathbf{a}} + |b_{kl}|^2 + \sigma_k^2} \geq \gamma_k, \forall k,$$
  
 $|\bar{a}_m|^2 = 1, \text{ for } m = 1, \dots, M+1.$

**DC programming**



matrix lifting  $\mathbf{A} = \bar{\mathbf{a}} \bar{\mathbf{a}}^H$

minimize  $\text{Tr}(\mathbf{A}) - \|\mathbf{A}\|_2$   
 $\mathbf{A} \succeq \mathbf{0}$

subject to 
$$\frac{\text{Tr}(\mathbf{R}_{kk} \mathbf{A}) + |b_{kk}|^2}{\sum_{l \neq k} \text{Tr}(\mathbf{R}_{kl} \mathbf{A}) + |b_{kl}|^2 + \sigma_k^2} \geq \gamma_k, \forall k,$$
  
 $\mathbf{A}_{mm} = 1, \text{ for } m = 1, \dots, M+1.$

**DC representation**

$\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}) = 1$

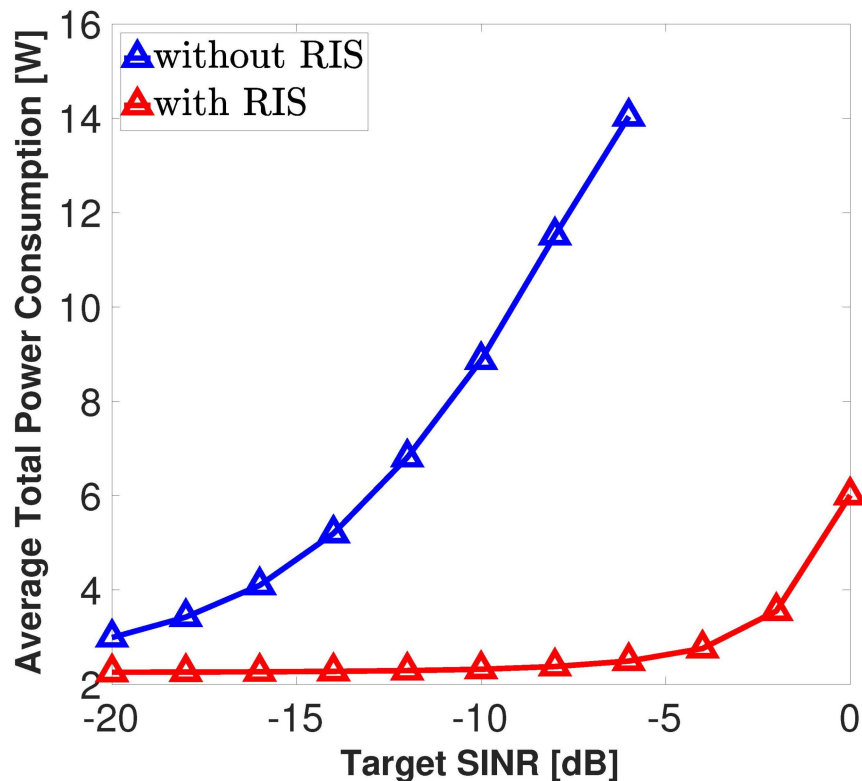
$\iff \text{Tr}(\mathbf{A}) - \|\mathbf{A}\|_2 = 0,$

find  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{C}^{(M+1) \times (M+1)}$

subject to 
$$\frac{\text{Tr}(\mathbf{R}_{kk} \mathbf{A}) + |b_{kk}|^2}{\sum_{l \neq k} \text{Tr}(\mathbf{R}_{kl} \mathbf{A}) + |b_{kl}|^2 + \sigma_k^2} \geq \gamma_k, \forall k,$$
  
 $\mathbf{A}_{mm} = 1, \text{ for } m = 1, \dots, M+1,$   
 $\mathbf{A} \succeq \mathbf{0} \text{ and } \text{rank}(\mathbf{A}) = 1.$

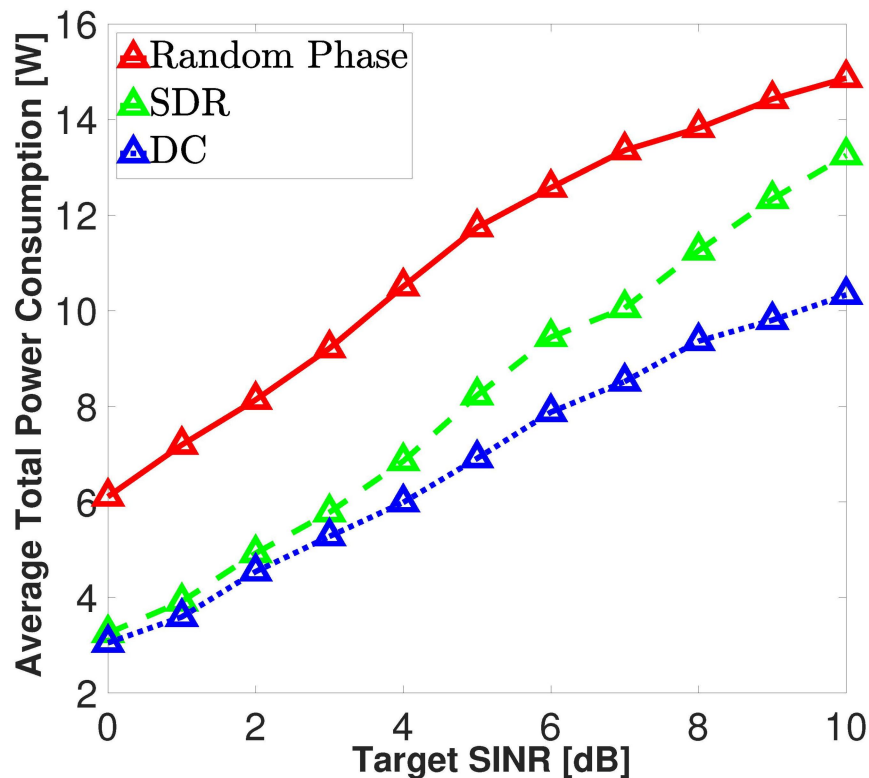


# Simulation Results



**Insights:** deploying an RIS in edge inference system can significantly reduce the total power consumption

# Simulation Results



**Insights:** the proposed DC significantly outperforms two benchmark algorithms in obtaining rank-one solutions

# Concluding remarks

- **Edge inference over “intelligent” wireless networks**
  - Edge inference empowered by reconfigurable intelligent surface
- **A mixed  $\ell_{1,2}$ -norm and DC based alternating framework**
  - Mixed  $\ell_{1,2}$ -norm for group sparsity inducing
  - DC representation for low-rank functions
  - MM algorithm for DC programming

# To learn more...

- **Web:** <http://shiyuanming.github.io/publicationstopic.html>
- **Papers:**
  - **S. Hua** and Y. Shi, “Reconfigurable intelligent surface for green edge inference in machine learning,” in *Proc. IEEE Global Commun. Conf. (Globecom) Workshops*, Waikoloa, Hawaii, USA, Dec. 2019.
  - **S. Hua**, Y. Zhou, K. Yang, and Y. Shi, “Reconfigurable intelligent surface for green edge inference,” *submitted to IEEE Trans. Wireless Commun. 2019*, <https://arxiv.org/abs/1912.00820>.

*Thanks*

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