

Aggregate Interference Modeling in Cognitive Radio Networks with Power and Contention Control

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Abstract—In this paper, we present interference models for cognitive radio (CR) networks employing various interference management mechanisms including power control, contention control or hybrid power/contention control schemes. For the first case, a power control scheme is proposed to govern the transmission power of a CR node. For the second one, a contention control scheme at the media access control (MAC) layer, based on carrier sense multiple access with collision avoidance (CSMA/CA), is proposed to coordinate the operation of CR nodes with transmission requests. The probability density functions (PDFs) of the interference received at a primary receiver from a CR network are first derived numerically for these two cases. For the hybrid case, where power and contention controls are jointly adopted by a CR node to govern its transmission, the interference is analyzed and compared with that of the first two schemes by simulations. Then, the interference PDFs under the first two control schemes are fitted by log-normal PDFs to reduce computation complexity. Moreover, the effect of a hidden primary receiver on the interference experienced at the receiver

is investigated. It is demonstrated that both power and contention controls are effective approaches to alleviate the interference caused by CR networks. Some in-depth analysis of the impact of key parameters on the interference of CR networks is given as well.

Index Terms—Cognitive radio, interference modeling, power control, contention control, hidden primary receiver.

I. INTRODUCTION

WITH the requirement to improve spectrum utilization, the emerging cognitive radio (CR) technology [1]–[4] has attracted increasing attention. A CR network is envisioned to be capable of reusing the unused or underutilized spectra of incumbent systems (also known as primary networks) by sensing its surrounding environment and adapting its operational parameters autonomously. A CR system may coexist with a primary network on either an interference-free or interference-tolerant basis [5], [6]. For the former case, the CR system only exploits the unused spectra of the primary network, which consequently guarantees no interference to primary users. For the latter case, the CR system is allowed to share the spectra assigned to the primary network, under the condition that the CR network must not impose detrimental interference on the primary network. Therefore, modeling and analyzing the interference caused by CR networks is of great importance to reveal how the service of a primary network is deteriorated and how CR networks may be deployed to protect the primary network against detrimental interference.

In the literature, the existing research on interference modeling for CR networks mainly falls into three categories: spatial, frequency-domain and accumulated interference modeling. For spatial interference modeling, the fraction of white spaces available for CR networks was investigated in [7]–[9]. In [10], the region of interference for CR receivers and region of communication for CR transmitters were studied for the case where a CR network coexists with a cellular network. The interference from CR devices to wireless microphones operating in TV bands was analyzed in [11], where the loss of reliable communication area of a wireless microphone due to the existence of CR devices was examined. CR interference in the frequency domain was also researched in the literature, e.g., the interference due to out-of-band emission of a wireless regional area network (WRAN) was analyzed in [12].

As for accumulated interference modeling, in [13], the aggregate interference power from a sea of CR transmitters surrounding a primary receiver was derived. The performance of a primary system was evaluated in [14] in terms of outage

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probability caused by the interference from CR networks. The outage probability was derived for both underlay and overlay spectrum sharing cases. In [15], the aggregate interference from multiple CR transmitters following a Poisson point process was approximated by a Gamma distribution and the probability of interference at a primary receiver was also given. It is worth noting that only pathloss was assumed for the interfering channel in [13]–[15]. Their work was extended by taking both shadowing and fading into account in [16] and [17]. Moreover, the probability density function (PDF) for accumulated interference and outage probability due to the aggregate interference from CR nodes were also derived in [16] and [17], respectively.

However, in all the previous works [7]–[17], the CR transmitters were assumed to transmit at a fixed power level. Moreover, the CR nodes were all assumed to communicate with each other simultaneously. Thus, no contention control scheme was employed at the cognitive media access control (MAC) layer. In [18], some preliminary interference modeling was reported by considering power and contention control schemes. In this paper, we present more realistic and comprehensive interference models by significantly extending the work of [18]. Firstly, a more realistic power control scheme than that in [18] is proposed, and a new interference management scheme - hybrid power/contention control scheme is introduced. Secondly, the PDFs of interference perceived at a primary network from a CR network are derived numerically for the cases of power or contention control. The interference distribution of the hybrid control scheme is also analyzed and compared with that of the pure power control and pure contention control schemes by simulations. Furthermore, to reduce the complexity of the numerical interference PDF's computation used in [18], cumulant-based approximations are applied to fitting the interference distributions. Finally, the impact of a hidden primary receiver on the aggregate interference is also investigated. The interference modeling presented in this work considers several basic interference management schemes, which forms a fundamental basis for the development of other advanced interference models for CR networks. Moreover, it gives insights into CR deployment by figuring out how to optimize CR operation parameters. Finally, the interference modeling lays a foundation for performance evaluation of primary networks, e.g., outage capacity of primary systems can be derived based on the interference PDFs.

The remainder of this paper is organized as follows. The system model is elaborated in Section II. The detailed interference modeling is presented in Section III. In Section IV, the interference distributions are approximated by log-normal distributions. We incorporate the hidden primary receiver problem in Section V. The impact of several key parameters on the interference is analyzed via numerical studies in Section VI. Finally, Section VII concludes the paper.

II. SYSTEM MODEL

The system model is illustrated in Fig. 1. It consists of a CR network coexisting with a primary transmitter-receiver pair. The *interference region* (IR) is adopted by the primary network to protect itself against interference from the CR network. No CR transmission is allowed within the IR. There exist

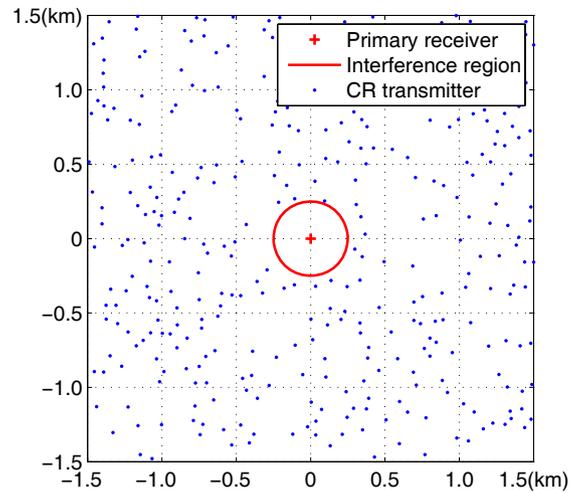


Fig. 1. System model for CR networks coexisting with a primary network ($R = 250$ m).

two main types of techniques to identify the IR for a primary network: geo-location technique and spectrum sensing [19]. For geo-location-based CR networks, the global positioning system (GPS) can be incorporated within the CR network. It enables CR transmitters to determine whether they are located far enough outside the protected service contour of the primary system. The geo-location technology usually leads to a circular IR around the primary system. As for spectrum-sensing-based CR, the IR is usually not circular but more irregular than that of the geo-location-based CR due to fading and/or imperfect sensing. In this paper, we focus on the former type and thus, a circular IR with a radius R is considered.

The underlying interference channels from CR transmitters to the primary receiver experience pathloss, shadowing and fading. The pathloss function $g(r_j)$ is

$$g(r_j) = r_j^{-\beta} \quad (1)$$

where r_j is the distance between the j th ($j = 1, 2, \dots$) active CR transmitter and the primary receiver and β is the pathloss exponent. The composite model for shadowing and fading can be expressed as the product of the long term shadowing and the short term multipath fading. In this paper, log-normal shadowing and Nakagami fading are considered. Let h_j denote the channel gain for the composite shadowing and fading of the interference channel from the j th active CR transmitter to the primary receiver. The PDF of the composite channel gain h_j can be approximated by the following log-normal distribution [20] (Page 102)

$$f_h(x) \approx \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma x} \exp\left\{-\frac{(\ln(x) - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right\} \quad (2)$$

where the mean μ and variance σ^2 can be expressed as

$$\mu = \left(\sum_{k=1}^{m-1} \frac{1}{k} - \ln(m) - 0.5772\right) + \mu_\Omega \quad (3)$$

$$\sigma^2 = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(m+k)^2} + \sigma_\Omega^2 \quad (4)$$

with m standing for the Nakagami shape factor and μ_Ω and σ_Ω^2 denoting the mean and variance of the log-normal distribution, respectively.

Let p_j denote the transmission power of the j th active CR transmitter. The accumulated power of the instantaneous interference received at the primary receiver can be expressed as

$$Y = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} p_j g(r_j) h_j. \quad (5)$$

In this paper, we investigate the characteristics of the aggregate interference from all CR transmitters employing the following three different interference management schemes: (i) power control, (ii) contention control, and (iii) hybrid power/contention control.

A. Power Control

In this scenario, the distribution of active CR transmitters follows a Poisson point process with a density parameter λ for the density of CR transmitters on the plane.

The transmission power of a CR transmitter is governed by the following power control law

$$p_{\text{pwc}}(r_{\text{cc}_j}) = \begin{cases} \left(\frac{r_{\text{cc}_j}}{r_{\text{pwc}}}\right)^\alpha P_{\text{max}}, & 0 < r_{\text{cc}_j} \leq r_{\text{pwc}} \\ P_{\text{max}}, & r_{\text{cc}_j} > r_{\text{pwc}} \end{cases} \quad (6)$$

where r_{cc_j} is the distance from the j th active CR transmitter to its nearest neighboring active CR transmitter, α is the power control exponent, P_{max} is the maximum transmission power for CR transmitters, and r_{pwc} is the power control range, which determines the minimum r_{cc_j} leading to maximum CR transmission power P_{max} . Compared to the power control law in [18], a new parameter r_{pwc} is introduced here to adjust the range of the power control. The interference caused by the j th active CR transmitter to its nearest active CR transmitter due to pathloss is $p_{\text{pwc}}(r_{\text{cc}_j})g(r_{\text{cc}_j})$. The above proposed power control scheme is designed in such a manner that when $\alpha = \beta$ within the power control range r_{pwc} , this interference is equal to a constant $P_{\text{max}}/r_{\text{pwc}}^\alpha$. Beyond the power control range, the interference is smaller than that constant. This means that at any CR transmitter, the interference from the nearest neighboring CR transmitter is capped and independent of the nearest neighbor distance within the power control range.

A CR network can be deployed as either an infrastructure or an ad hoc network [2]. For a CR infrastructure network, the above power control scheme is applicable to CR base stations (BSs), whose transmission powers are usually determined by their coverages. Moreover, the CR BSs locations are usually fixed, which minimizes the network planning load to determine the transmission power of CR BSs. When CR BSs follow a Poisson point distribution, the PDF of r_{cc_j} can be given as [22]

$$f_{\text{cc}}(x) = 2\pi\lambda x e^{-\lambda\pi x^2}. \quad (7)$$

B. Contention Control

Unlike the above mentioned power control scheme, for the case of contention control, every active CR transmitter has fixed transmission power p , but their transmission is governed by contention control to determine which CR transmitters can

transmit at a given time. We assume that the multiple access protocol carrier sense multiple access with collision avoidance (CSMA/CA) is employed, like in IEEE 802.11 networks. Every CR transmitter senses the medium before transmission. If the medium is busy, namely, the CR transmitter detects transmission from other CR transmitters within its contention region, it defers its transmission. Otherwise, the CR transmitter starts its transmission. As a result of the contention control, all the active CR transmitters are separated from each other by at least the contention distance, which is the minimum distance d_{min} between two concurrent CR transmitters. The contention control scheme can be applied to either a CR ad hoc network or distributed multiple-access users of a CR infrastructure network.

The distribution of active CR transmitters under the contention control scheme can be modeled as a Matern-hardcore (MH) point process [21]. The MH point process Φ_{mh} can be obtained by thinning a Poisson point process Φ , which can be expressed as follows [22]

$$\Phi_{\text{mh}} = \{x \in \Phi \mid m(x) < m(y) \text{ for all } y \text{ in } \Phi \cap C(x, d_{\text{min}})\}. \quad (8)$$

Each point x in the original Poisson point process Φ is marked with a random variable $m(x)$ uniformly distributed in $(0, 1)$. A point x is retained from the thinning process only if its mark is smaller than that of all the other points within the disk $C(x, d_{\text{min}})$ centered at point x with the radius d_{min} . Otherwise, the point x is removed. The *retaining probability* q_{mh} for the MH point process, which is the probability of a point from a Poisson point process with a density λ surviving the thinning process, is given by [22]

$$q_{\text{mh}} = \frac{1 - e^{-\lambda\pi d_{\text{min}}^2}}{\lambda\pi d_{\text{min}}^2}. \quad (9)$$

C. Hybrid Power/Contention Control

A natural extension of the above two interference management schemes is to implement both schemes in the same system. This is termed hybrid power/contention control and it works in the following manner. The contention control scheme is first applied, resulting in a set of active CR transmitters following an MH point process. Then, a power control scheme similar to (6) is employed to adjust the transmission power of each active CR transmitter according to the distance to the nearest neighboring active transmitter. The following power control law is adopted in the hybrid control scheme

$$p_{\text{hyb}}(r) = \begin{cases} \left(\frac{r_{\text{cc}}}{d_{\text{min}}}\right)^\alpha p, & d_{\text{min}} \leq r_{\text{cc}} \leq r_{\text{hyb}} \\ \left(\frac{r_{\text{hyb}}}{d_{\text{min}}}\right)^\alpha p, & r_{\text{cc}} > r_{\text{hyb}} \end{cases} \quad (10)$$

where r_{cc} is the distance from an active CR transmitter to its nearest neighboring active CR transmitter, α is the power control exponent as in (6), and r_{hyb} is the power control range similar to r_{pwc} in (6) except that it also determines the maximum transmission power, i.e., $\left(\frac{r_{\text{hyb}}}{d_{\text{min}}}\right)^\alpha p$. The above power control law (10) guarantees that when a pathloss channel is considered for each active CR transmitter, the perceived interference caused by its nearest neighboring CR transmitter is $p_{\text{hyb}}(r_{\text{cc}})g(r_{\text{cc}})$, which is (i) a constant p/d_{min}^α (if $\alpha = \beta$)

where $\lambda_{\text{roIR}}(r)$ denotes the density of active CR transmitters right outside of the IR with $R < r < R + d_{\text{min}}$. It can be proved that $\lambda_{\text{roIR}}(r)$ is a monotonically decreasing function of r with $\lambda_{\text{roIR}}(R + d_{\text{min}}) = \lambda_{\text{mh}}$.

For active CR transmitters located in the region $r \geq R + d_{\text{min}}$, the distribution of their aggregate interference is equivalent to that of a Poisson point process with density λ_{mh} . This is due to the fact that the thinning process (8) is independent of r in this region. Therefore, the active CR transmitters in this region have a uniformly distributed value of r similar to (13) given a total number of active CR transmitters. While, for active CR transmitters located right outside of the IR with $R < r < R + d_{\text{min}}$, the characteristic function of the aggregate interference analogous to (11) is difficult to obtain due to the fact that $\lambda_{\text{roIR}}(r)$ is not fixed like λ_{mh} , but changes over r . To model the distribution of the aggregate CR interference under the contention control scheme, we can approximate the thinning process by ignoring the impact of the IR. The approximated density of active CR transmitters can be written as follows

$$\lambda_{\text{approx}} = \begin{cases} \lambda_{\text{mh}}, & r > R \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad (21)$$

The aggregate CR interference distribution under contention control can be approximated by that of a Poisson point process with density λ_{mh} and fixed transmission power p . The characteristic function of the accumulated interference can be found as

$$\phi_Y(\omega) = \exp\left(\lambda_{\text{mh}}\pi \int_H f_h(h)T(\omega ph)dh\right). \quad (22)$$

The detailed derivation of (22) is presented in Appendix B.

By comparing (20) and (21), one can find out that the approximated thinning process underestimates the aggregate CR interference due to the monotonically decreasing nature of $\lambda_{\text{roIR}}(r)$. Some active CR transmitters located in the region $R < r < R + d_{\text{min}}$ are ignored during the approximation, i.e., the approximated distribution (22) serves as a lower bound for the CR interference distribution under the contention control scheme. The accuracy of the above approximation depends on the difference between $\lambda_{\text{roIR}}(r)$ and λ_{mh} . It can be seen from (17)–(20) that $\lambda_{\text{roIR}}(r)$ is determined by λ , d_{min} and R . In Fig. 3, we evaluate the impact of these parameters on the ratio $\lambda_{\text{roIR}}(R)/\lambda_{\text{mh}}$, which relates to the accuracy of the approximation. It is easy to see that the approximation becomes more accurate as the ratio $\lambda_{\text{roIR}}(R)/\lambda_{\text{mh}}$ decreases and approaches 1. By observing Fig. 3, the following points may be observed: (i) the approximation tends to be less accurate as the density λ and/or IR radius R increase; (ii) for small λ , the approximation accuracy is inversely proportional to d_{min} ; while, for large λ , the accuracy is proportional to d_{min} ; (iii) the density λ has less influence on the approximation accuracy as it increases, since the ratio saturates. The approximation accuracy is evaluated numerically in Section IV.B as well.

C. Hybrid Power/Contention Control

To model the aggregate interference under the hybrid control scheme, the nearest neighboring distance distribution function analogous to (7) for active CR transmitters is indispensable to evaluate the transmission power designated

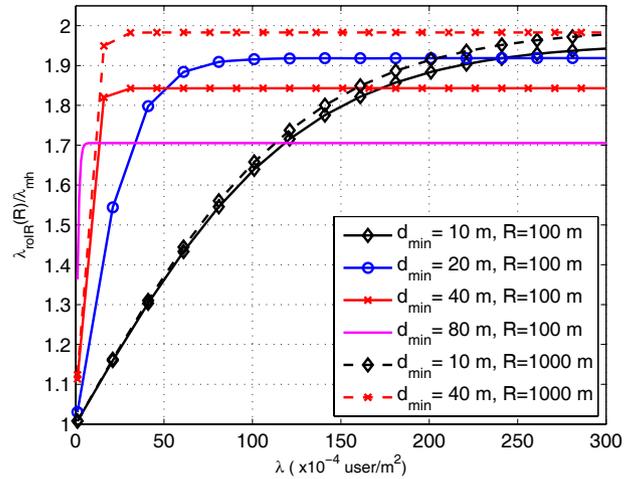


Fig. 3. Impact of system parameters on the density λ_{roIR} of active CR transmitters right outside the IR.

in (10). Unfortunately, there is no closed-form expression for the nearest neighbor distance distribution function for an MH point process [27]. Thus, we approach this problem numerically.

The PDF for the aggregate interference under the hybrid control scheme is simulated in Fig. 4, where the interference PDFs for power and contention control are given as well for the purpose of comparison. It can be seen from this figure that with the setup of $d_{\text{min}} = r_{\text{pwc}}$, $p = P_{\text{max}}$ and $\alpha = \beta$ both the mean and variance of the aggregate interference increase for the hybrid control scheme compared to either power or contention control schemes. However, the boosted interference is paid off by the increased CR communication area (coverage) for the hybrid control scheme. We define the coverage of each CR transmitter as a circular disk centered at a CR transmitter with radii being $\min(r/2, r_{\text{pwc}}/2)$, $d_{\text{min}}/2$ and $\min(r/2, r_{\text{hyb}}/2)$ for power control, contention control and hybrid power/contention control schemes, respectively. Then, the received signal power at cell edge of a CR transmitter due to pathloss is $2^\beta P_{\text{max}}/r_{\text{pwc}}^\beta$, $2^\beta p/d_{\text{min}}^\beta$ and $2^\beta p/d_{\text{min}}^\beta$, which is same for all the three schemes under the aforementioned setup. With this setup, the overall coverage ratio obtained numerically among the power, contention and hybrid power/contention control is 1.0093 : 1 : 2.0229. Two interesting facts are unveiled from this experiment. Firstly, with the setup of $d_{\text{min}} = r_{\text{pwc}}$, $p = P_{\text{max}}$ and $\alpha = \beta$, the power and contention control schemes lead to almost the same amount of interference and coverage, but the latter is less complex to implement. Secondly, introducing power control into the contention control scheme can enlarge the coverage compared to the pure contention control scheme at the cost of causing higher interference to the primary system.

IV. ANALYTICAL APPROXIMATION

In the previous section, in order to derive the PDFs for aggregate interference, the characteristic function-based method has been used which consists of two steps. Namely, characteristic function computation and Fourier transformation. This

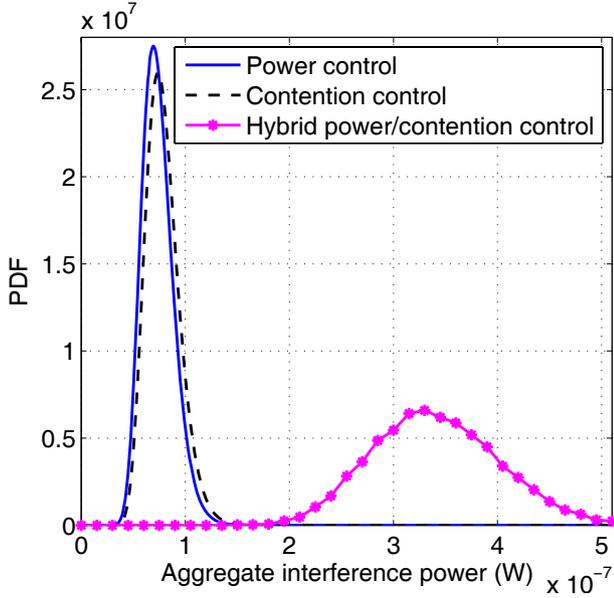


Fig. 4. Comparison of interference distributions for power, contention and hybrid power/contention control schemes ($R = 100$ m, $\lambda = 3$ user/ 10^4 m 2 , $\beta = 4$, $r_{\text{pwc}} = 20$ m, $\alpha = 4$, $P_{\text{max}} = 1$ W, $p = 1$ W, $d_{\text{min}} = 20$ m and $r_{\text{hyb}} = 30$ m).

interference modeling approach is extremely computation-intensive, since generally closed-form expressions are not admitted for either step and the computations in both steps have to be performed numerically. It is desirable to model the aggregate interference with less complexity. An alternative approach to model the interference, which greatly reduces complexity, is to approximate interference PDFs as certain known distributions. Observations from Fig. 4 suggest that the interference distribution for either power or contention control is positively skewed and heavy-tailed, which suggests a log-normal distribution. Thus, in this section, we fit the aggregate interference under power and contention control schemes to log-normal distributions. The theory behind the log-normal fitting is based on the following two facts. It has been shown that the sum of interference from uniformly distributed interferers in a circular area is asymptotically log-normal [17], [28]. This ensures that the aggregate interference in these two schemes can be approximated as log-normal distributed. Meanwhile, the sum of randomly weighted log-normal variables can be modeled as a log-normal distribution as well [29], which guarantees that the aggregate interference is still log-normal distributed even if the effect of shadow fading (2) is taken into account. In what follows, the log-normal fitting is performed using a cumulant-matching approach [30], where the first two order cumulants of the aggregate interference Y in (5) are used to estimate the mean and variance of the log-normal distribution function. Therefore, the exact PDFs of interference can be obtained. Fortunately, these cumulants have closed-form expressions for both control schemes. Consequently, it significantly reduces the complexity compared to the interference modeling carried out in Section III. Moreover, compared to the characteristic function-based method, the relationship between CR system parameters and the resulting interference becomes much clearer for the cumulant-based PDFs approximation.

For a log-normal random variable, its mean μ and variance σ^2 can be estimated using the first two order cumulants k_1 and k_2 as follows [31]:

$$\mu = \ln \frac{k_1}{\sqrt{\frac{k_2}{k_1^2} + 1}} \quad (23)$$

$$\sigma^2 = \ln \left(\frac{k_2}{k_1^2} + 1 \right). \quad (24)$$

In the context of interference distribution fitting, the n th cumulant k_n of the aggregate interference Y can be obtained from its characteristic function $\phi_Y(\omega)$ via the following equation

$$k_n = \frac{1}{i^n} \left[\frac{\partial^n \ln \phi_Y(\omega)}{\partial \omega^n} \right]_{\omega=0}. \quad (25)$$

A. Power Control

From (15) and (25), the cumulants for aggregate interference under the power control scheme can be derived as (see Appendix C for detailed derivation)

$$k_n = \frac{2\lambda\pi P_{\text{max}}^n e^{n\mu + \frac{n^2\sigma^2}{2}}}{(n\beta - 2)R^{n\beta - 2}} \left[\frac{n\alpha(n\alpha - 2) \cdots 2}{r_{\text{pwc}}^{n\alpha} (2\pi\lambda)^{\frac{n\alpha}{2}}} \left(1 - e^{-\lambda\pi r_{\text{pwc}}^2} \right) - \sum_{i=1}^{\frac{n\alpha}{2} - 1} \frac{n\alpha(n\alpha - 2) \cdots (n\alpha - 2i + 2)}{(2\pi\lambda r_{\text{pwc}}^2)^i} r_{\text{pwc}}^{n\alpha - 2i} e^{-\lambda\pi r_{\text{pwc}}^2} \right]. \quad (26)$$

It can be seen from (26) that k_n is proportional to P_{max}^n and $1/R^{n\beta - 2}$, and all cumulants are most sensitive to the IR radius R since it has the highest exponent compared to other parameters. The power control range r_{pwc} and the density λ have similar impact on all cumulants, but the impact of the former is larger than that of the latter, since the former has a larger exponent.

To evaluate the accuracy of the approximation for the power control case, comparisons are performed in Fig. 5(a), where cumulative distribution functions (CDFs) are used to improve readability. It can be seen from Fig. 5(a) that there is fairly good agreement among the interference CDFs derived in Section III, the approximated counterparts and the Monte Carlo simulation. This approximation approach can be applied to both the pathloss-only and shadow fading channels.

B. Contention Control

Following the similar steps as in Appendix C and given the characteristic function (22) for the aggregate interference under contention control and also using (25), we can find the n th cumulant k_n of aggregate interference as

$$\begin{aligned} k_n &= \frac{\lambda\pi q_{\text{mh}}}{i^n} \int_H f_h(h) \left[-R^2 (ipg(R)h)^n + n(ipg(R)h)^n \int_0^{g(R)} t^{n-1-\frac{2}{\beta}} dt \right] dh \\ &= \lambda\pi q_{\text{mh}} \left(\frac{n}{n-\frac{2}{\beta}} g^{n-\frac{2}{\beta}}(R) - R^2 g^n(R) \right) p^n \int_H f_h(h) h^n dh \\ &= \frac{2p^n \left(1 - e^{-\lambda\pi d_{\text{min}}^2} \right) e^{n\mu + \frac{n^2\sigma^2}{2}}}{(n\beta - 2)d_{\text{min}}^2 R^{n\beta - 2}}. \end{aligned} \quad (27)$$

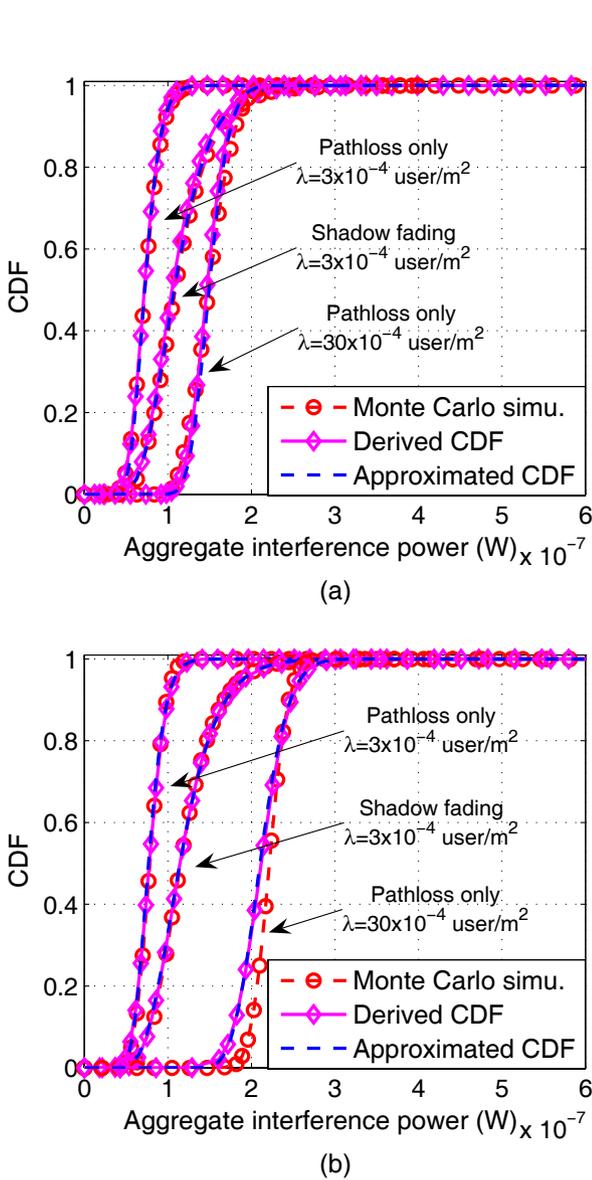


Fig. 5. Log-normal approximation for interference distribution under (a) power control ($R = 100$ m, $\beta = 4$, $r_{pwc} = 20$ m, $\alpha = 4$, $P_{\max} = 1$ W, $\mu = 0$ and $\sigma = 4$ dB) or (b) contention control ($R = 100$ m, $\beta = 4$, $d_{\min} = 20$ m, $p = 1$ W, $\mu = 0$ and $\sigma = 4$ dB).

As we can see from (27), k_n is proportional to p^n and $1/R^{n\beta-2}$, which suggests that IR radius R is the most effective parameter to control the aggregate interference due to its highest exponent. The cumulants are not sensitive to the CR density λ for large λ . The contention range d_{\min} has little impact on the cumulants when d_{\min} is small. It can also be seen from (26) and (27) that shadow fading has the same impact on cumulants for the power and contention control schemes.

The accuracy evaluation of approximations under the contention control scheme is also performed and shown in Fig. 5(b). It can be seen from this figure that the log-normal approximation is fairly accurate compared to the derived interference CDFs for either pathloss-only or shadow fading channels. Moreover, it can be observed that the approximated thinning process tends to be less accurate as the CR density λ increases, which agrees with the analysis in Section III.B.

V. IMPERFECT PRIMARY SYSTEM KNOWLEDGE

In practice, some information about the primary system may not be perfectly known. One prominent example is the location of the primary receivers, which is usually required by CR networks in order to protect primary receivers from interfering CR transmitters. However, this information is not always available, especially in the case of passive primary receivers, i.e., when the primary receivers are hidden from CR networks. It is widely accepted that passive receiver detection techniques can be used or developed in the context of CR networks. For example, one of such primary receiver detection techniques is reported in [32]. Nevertheless, its applicability is still not convincingly viable since it requires deploying sensor nodes close to primary receivers and much coordination is involved between these sensors and CR networks as well. The most commonly used and also the simplest approach to protect the primary receiver is to regulate the transmission of the CR network based on primary transmitter sensing, assuming that primary receivers are in close proximity to the primary transmitter. In this section, we evaluate the effect of a hidden primary receiver on the resulting interference to primary receivers.

Consider a primary and CR coexisting systems depicted in Fig. 2, where an IR with radius R centered at the primary transmitter is introduced. All CR transmitters are distributed in the shaded concentric ring with inner radius R and outer radius l . Let θ be the angle between the line joining the primary transmitter (in brackets) and a CR transmitter and the line joining the primary transmitter-receiver pair (in brackets). The distance from the CR transmitter to the primary transmitter is r and the distance between the primary transmitter-receiver pair is r_p . Then, the distance between the CR transmitter and the primary receiver r_{cp} can be expressed as

$$r_{cp}(r, \theta) = [r^2 + r_p^2 - 2rr_p \cos\theta]^{\frac{1}{2}}, \quad r \in [R, l]; \quad \theta \in [0, 2\pi] \quad (28)$$

where r is distributed as in (13) and θ is uniformly distributed in $[0, 2\pi]$ if a Poisson point process is assumed for the CR transmitter distribution.

A. Power Control

Under the power control scheme proposed in Section II.A and the system model given in Fig. 2, the characteristic function of aggregate interference $\phi_Y(\omega)$ can be written as follows (see Appendix D for the detailed derivation):

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_Y(\omega) = \lim_{l \rightarrow \infty} \exp \left\{ \lambda \int_H f_h(h) \int_0^{r_{pwc}} f_{cc}(x) \int_0^{2\pi} \int_R \right. \\ \left. e^{i\omega \left(\frac{r}{r_{pwc}}\right)^\alpha P_{\max}(x) g(r_{cp}(r, \theta)) h} r - r \, dr \, d\theta \, dx \, dh \right. \\ \left. + \lambda \int_H f_h(h) \int_{r_{pwc}}^\infty f_{cc}(x) \int_0^{2\pi} \int_R \right. \\ \left. e^{i\omega P_{\max}(x) g(r_{cp}(r, \theta)) h} r - r \, dr \, d\theta \, dx \, dh \right\}. \quad (29) \end{aligned}$$

Applying the log-normal approximation method used in

Section IV, we obtain the k th cumulant of interference as

$$k_n = \lim_{l \rightarrow \infty} \lambda \left\{ \int_H f_h(h) \int_0^{r_{\text{pwc}}} f_{\text{cc}}(x) \int_0^{2\pi} \int_R^l \frac{(r^\alpha P_{\text{max}}(x) g(r_{\text{cp}}(r, \theta)) h)^n}{r_{\text{pwc}}^{n\alpha}} r dr d\theta dx dh \right. \\ \left. + \int_H f_h(h) \int_{r_{\text{pwc}}}^\infty f_{\text{cc}}(x) \int_0^{2\pi} \int_R^l [P_{\text{max}}(x) g(r_{\text{cp}}(r, \theta)) h]^n r dr d\theta dx dh \right\}. \quad (30)$$

As can be seen from (30), unlike (26), the k th cumulant does not have a closed-form expression. However, the complexity of obtaining the exact interference PDF from (30) is still smaller than that of the numerical method in Section III.

An experiment is done in Fig. 6(a) to examine the effect of hidden primary receiver on the resulting interference compared to the interference for the case of perfect knowledge of primary receiver location. It can be seen from the figure that the hidden primary receiver problem boosts the interference in terms of increased interference mean and variance. This figure also shows that the log-normal approximation still fits well with both the derived CDF and Monte Carlo simulations.

B. Contention Control

Under the contention control scheme proposed in Section II.B and the system model given in Fig. 2, the characteristic function of aggregate interference $\phi_Y(\omega)$ can be expressed as

$$\phi_Y(\omega) = \lim_{l \rightarrow \infty} \exp \left\{ q_{\text{mh}} \lambda \pi D_l \left(E \left(e^{i\omega p g(V)h} \right) - 1 \right) \right\} \\ = \lim_{l \rightarrow \infty} \exp \left\{ q_{\text{mh}} \lambda \pi D_l \right. \\ \left. \times \left(\int_H f_h(h) \int_0^{2\pi} \int_R^l \frac{r e^{i\omega p g(r_{\text{cp}}(r, \theta))h}}{\pi D_l} dr d\theta dh - 1 \right) \right\} \\ = \lim_{l \rightarrow \infty} \exp \left\{ q_{\text{mh}} \lambda \int_H f_h(h) \int_0^{2\pi} \int_R^l \right. \\ \left. r e^{i\omega p g(r_{\text{cp}}(r, \theta))h} - r dr d\theta dh \right\} \quad (31)$$

with $D_l = l^2 - R^2$.

Using the same log-normal approximation method as in Section IV, the k th cumulant of interference can be written as

$$k_n = \lim_{l \rightarrow \infty} q_{\text{mh}} \lambda \int_H f_h(h) \int_0^{2\pi} \int_R^l [p g(r_{\text{cp}}(r, \theta)) h]^n r - r dr d\theta dh. \quad (32)$$

The effect of hidden primary receiver under contention control is evaluated in Fig. 6(b), where a pathloss-only channel is assumed. As we can see from this figure, the uncertainty about the primary receiver location leads to interference with larger mean and variance as compared to that in the case with perfect knowledge of primary receiver location. Moreover, it can be seen from this figure that the log-normal fitting for the interference is fairly accurate compared to the Monte Carlo simulations. Thus, the approximation approach is still applicable in this scenario.

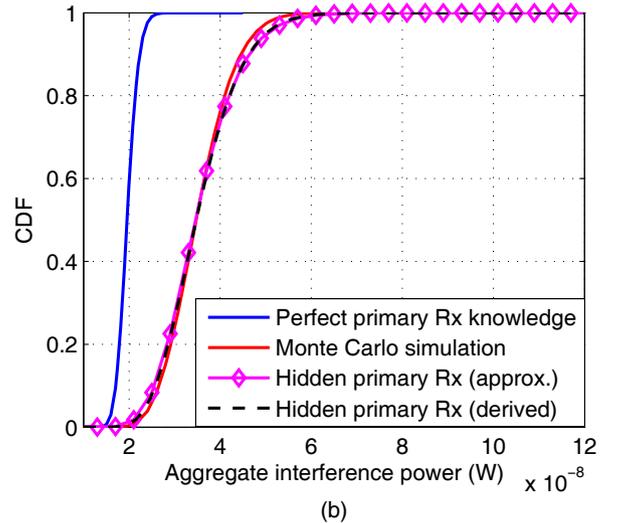
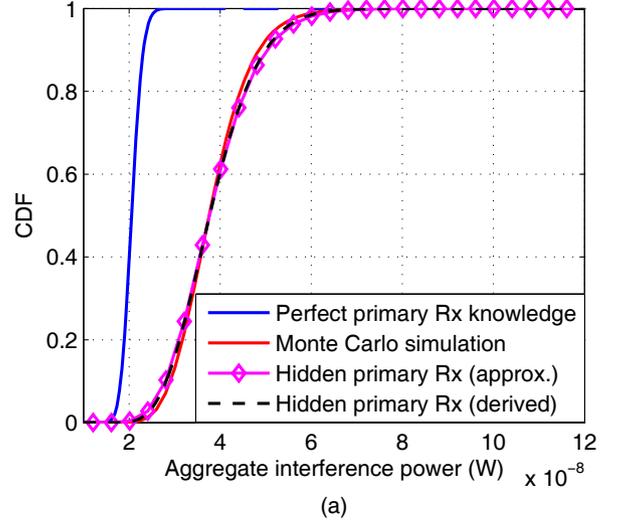


Fig. 6. Log-normal approximation for interference distribution with a hidden primary receiver under (a) power control ($R = 200$ m, $\lambda = 3$ user/ 10^4 m 2 , $\beta = 4$, $r_{\text{pwc}} = 20$ m, $\alpha = 4$, $P_{\text{max}} = 1$ W and $r_p = 0.5R$) or (b) contention control ($R = 200$ m, $\lambda = 3$ user/ 10^4 m 2 , $\beta = 4$, $d_{\text{min}} = 20$ m, $p = 1$ W and $r_p = 0.5R$).

VI. NUMERICAL RESULTS AND ANALYSIS

The aggregate interference power from CR transmitters employing power control or contention control is investigated numerically in this section. For the power control scheme, Fig. 7(a) shows the effect of different power control parameters on their resulting aggregate interference. The detailed setup for the initial power control scheme is as follows: the maximum transmission power for each CR transmitter $P_{\text{max}} = 1$ W, the density of CR transmitter $\lambda = 3$ user/ 10^4 m 2 , the IR radius $R = 100$ m, the power control range $r_{\text{pwc}} = 20$ m, the pathloss exponent $\beta = 4$ and the power control exponent $\alpha = 4$. From the two rightmost PDFs in this figure, it can be seen that introducing power control scheme actually shifts the interference distribution leftwards compared to the distribution without power control. It means that the power control scheme

can reduce the interference experienced at the primary receiver in terms of reducing its mean and slightly decreasing its variance. When deploying a CR network under the power control scheme, its resulting interference can be controlled by manipulating several parameters including P_{\max} , r_{pwc} , λ , and R . It can be seen in Fig. 7(a) that the interference can be reduced by either decreasing the maximum transmission power and/or CR density, or increasing the power control range and/or IR radius. Interestingly, it also suggests that adjusting the IR radius is an effective way to control the interference, since the interference is more sensitive to the IR radius than to any other parameter as demonstrated in Fig. 7(a). Meanwhile, the interference is least sensitive to the CR user density in the sense that halving λ leads to higher interference compared to doubling r_{pwc} , halving P_{\max} or doubling R .

For the contention control scheme, the impact of contention control parameters on the resulting interference is depicted in Fig. 7(b), whose initial setup is the same as that of Fig. 7(a) except that the transmission power for each CR transmitter is $p = 1$ W and the contention control range is $d_{\min} = 20$ m. It can be seen from the two rightmost PDFs in Fig. 7(b) that the contention control scheme results in an interference distribution with reduced mean like the power control scheme in Fig. 7(a). Meanwhile, the interference can be reduced by decreasing p , λ , and/or increasing R or d_{\min} . It can be observed by comparing Fig. 7(b) with Fig. 7(a) that (i) increasing the IR radius is an effective approach to reduce the interference for both the power and contention control schemes. However, the power control scheme is more sensitive to the IR radius than the contention control one; (ii) reducing the transmission power and/or CR transmitter density affects the interference in the very similar manner for these two control schemes.

Finally, the impact of shadow fading on the aggregate interference is investigated for different values of the Nakagami shaping factor m under power and contention control schemes, respectively, in Figs. 8(a) and 8(b). The initial setup in this example is the same as the one used for Figs. 7(a) and 7(b), except that the standard variance is $\sigma_{\Omega} = 4$ dB. When $m = 1$ the interfering channel becomes a Rayleigh channel, which is dominated by the log-normal shadowing. Whereas, when $m = 100$ the fluctuations of the channel are reduced significantly compared to the Rayleigh fading channel. One fact observed in Fig. 8 is that the interference distributions have larger variance and heavier tails when shadow fading is incorporated for both control schemes. Interestingly, fading tends to make the interference distribution more heavy-tailed than shadowing, i.e., the interference under shadowing has better outage property than that under fading. Moreover, the shadow fading has the similar effect for both control schemes, which agrees with the analysis in Section IV.

VII. CONCLUSIONS

Interference at a primary receiver caused by CR transmitters with different interference management mechanisms including power control, contention control, and hybrid power/contention control schemes has been characterized. The PDFs of interference for the first two mechanisms have been evaluated analytically while, the interference distribution

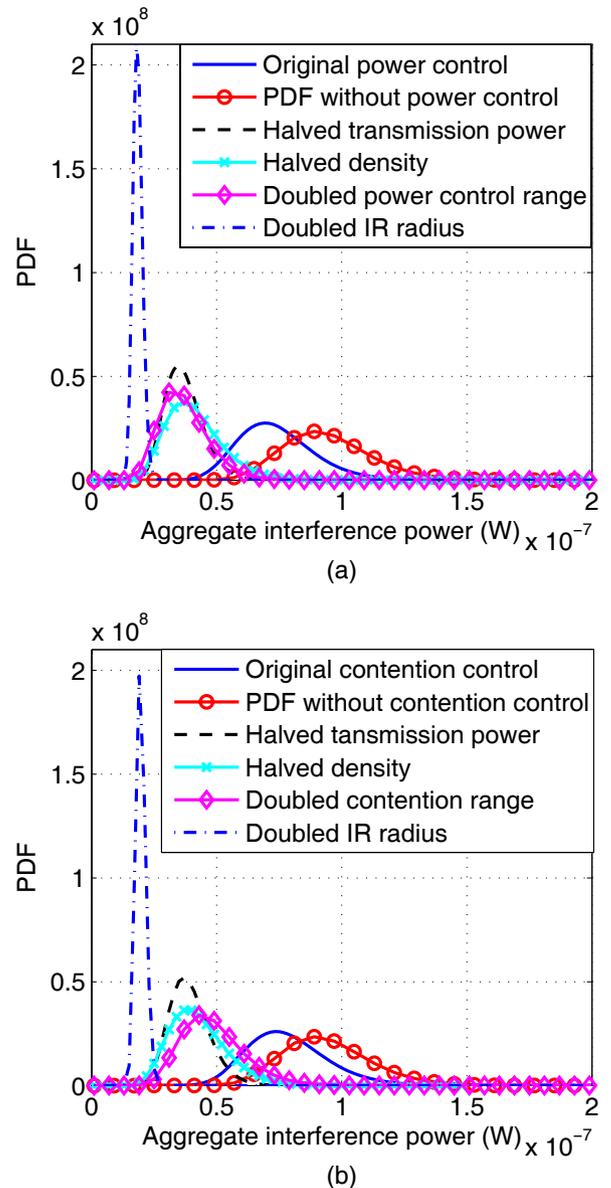


Fig. 7. Impact of various CR deployment parameters on the aggregate interference for CR networks with (a) power control ($R = 100$ m, $\lambda = 3$ user/ 10^4 m 2 , $\beta = 4$, $r_{\text{pwc}} = 20$ m, $\alpha = 4$ and $P_{\max} = 1$ W) or (b) contention control ($R = 100$ m, $\lambda = 3$ user/ 10^4 m 2 , $\beta = 4$, $d_{\min} = 20$ m, and $p = 1$ W).

under the hybrid power/contention control has been studied numerically. It has been found that the proposed power control and contention control schemes are two effective approaches to alleviate interference caused by CR transmitters. The hybrid control scheme causes higher interference to a primary receiver, but leads to larger CR coverage as compared to either power or contention control schemes. Then, the interference distributions for power and contention control schemes have been approximated by log-normal distributions with greatly reduced complexity using the cumulant-based approach. Furthermore, the effect of a hidden primary receiver on the perceived interference has also been investigated for the primary receiver. Numerical studies have demonstrated the

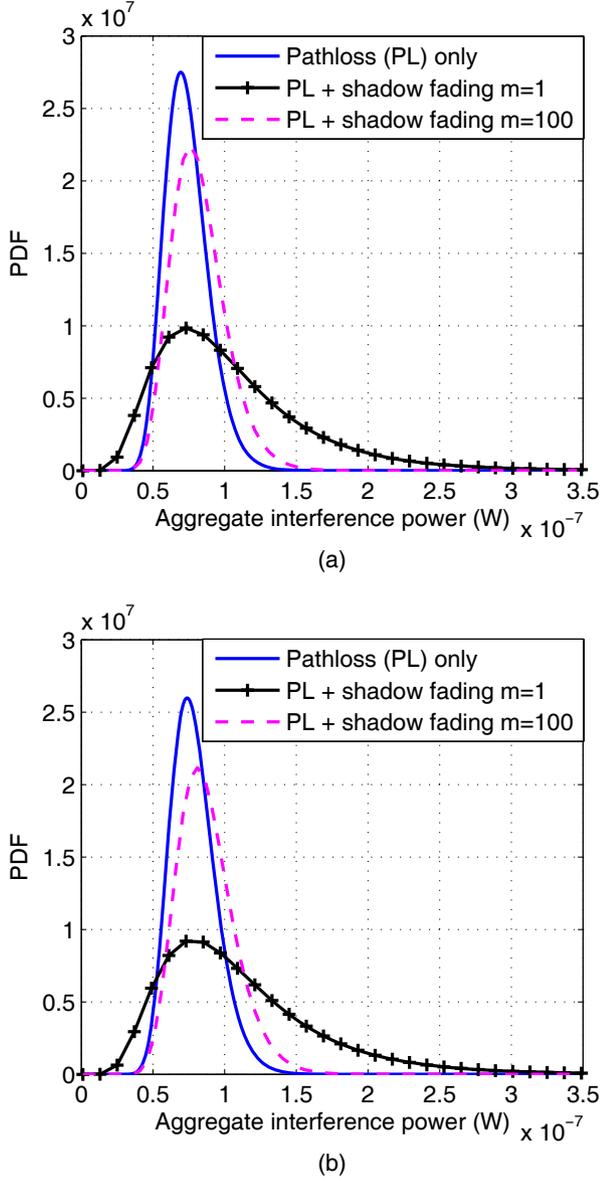


Fig. 8. Impact of shadow fading on the aggregate interference for CR networks ($R = 100$ m, $\lambda = 3$ user/ 10^4 m², $\beta = 4$) with (a) power control ($r_{pwc} = 20$ m, $\alpha = 4$ and $P_{max} = 1$ W) or (b) contention control ($d_{min} = 20$ m and $p = 1$ W).

impact of some CR deployment parameters on the resulting aggregate interference under power and contention control schemes. It has been shown that increasing the IR radius is an effective way to reduce the interference. Moreover, the power control scheme is more sensitive to the IR radius than the contention control counterpart. Finally, the impact of shadow fading on the aggregate interference has been analyzed as well.

APPENDIX

A. Derivation of (15)

Substituting (6) and (7) into (14), we have

$$\phi_Y(\omega) = \exp \left\{ \lambda \pi \int_H f_h(h) \int_{r_{cc}} f_{cc}(x) \left[R^2 \left(1 - e^{i\omega g(R) p_{pwc}(x) h} \right) + i\omega p_{pwc}(x) h \int_0^{g(R)} (g^{-1}(t))^2 e^{i\omega t p_{pwc}(x) h} dt \right] dx dh \right\}$$

$$= \exp \left\{ \lambda \pi \int_H f_h(h) \int_0^{r_{pwc}} f_{cc}(x) \left[R^2 \left(1 - e^{i\omega \left(\frac{x}{r_{pwc}} \right)^\alpha P_{max} g(R) h} \right) + \frac{i\omega x^\alpha P_{max} h}{r_{pwc}^\alpha} \int_0^{g(R)} (g^{-1}(t))^2 e^{i\omega t \left(\frac{x}{r_{pwc}} \right)^\alpha P_{max} h} dt \right] dx dh + \lambda \pi \int_H f_h(h) \int_{r_{pwc}} f_{cc}(x) \left[R^2 \left(1 - e^{i\omega g(R) P_{max} h} \right) + i\omega P_{max} h \int_0^{g(R)} (g^{-1}(t))^2 e^{i\omega t P_{max} h} dt \right] dx dh \right\}. \quad (33)$$

Using (1) and (33), the characteristic function (15) is obtained.

B. Derivation of (22)

Following similar steps as in [16], the characteristic function of the aggregate interference can be expressed as

$$\phi_Y(\omega) = \lim_{l \rightarrow \infty} e^{\lambda \pi (l^2 - R^2)(Q-1)} \quad (34)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} Q &= E \left(e^{i\omega P g(V) H} \right) \\ &= \int_H f_h(h) \int_R^l E \left[e^{i\omega P g(r) h} \right] \frac{2r}{l^2 - R^2} dr dh \\ &= \int_H f_h(h) \int_R^l \left[(1 - q_{mh}) + q_{mh} e^{i\omega p g(r) h} \right] \frac{2r}{l^2 - R^2} dr dh \\ &= 1 - q_{mh} + q_{mh} \int_H f_h(h) \int_R^l e^{i\omega p g(r) h} \frac{2r}{l^2 - R^2} dr dh. \end{aligned} \quad (35)$$

When $l \rightarrow \infty$, the integral in the last equality of (35) can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{l \rightarrow \infty} \int_H f_h(h) \int_R^l e^{i\omega p g(r) h} \frac{2r}{l^2 - R^2} dr dh \\ = 1 + \frac{1}{l^2 - R^2} \int_H f_h(h) T(\omega p h) dh \end{aligned} \quad (36)$$

where $T(\omega p h)$ is given in (12). Substituting (35) and (36) into (34), we obtain (22).

C. Derivation of (26)

From (15) and (25), we have

$$\begin{aligned} k_n &= \frac{\lambda \pi}{i^n} \int_H f_h(h) \int_0^{r_{pwc}} f_{cc}(x) \left[-R^2 \left(\frac{i x^\alpha P_{max} g(R) h}{r_{pwc}^\alpha} \right)^n + \frac{n (i x^\alpha P_{max} h)^n}{r_{pwc}^{n\alpha}} \int_0^{g(R)} t^{n-1-\frac{2}{\beta}} dt \right] dx dh \\ &+ \frac{\lambda \pi}{i^n} \int_H f_h(h) \int_{r_{pwc}} f_{cc}(x) \left[-R^2 (i P_{max} g(R) h)^n + n (i P_{max} h)^n \int_0^{g(R)} t^{n-1-\frac{2}{\beta}} dt \right] dx dh \\ &= \lambda \pi \int_H f_h(h) h^n dh \left(\frac{n}{n-\frac{2}{\beta}} g^{n-\frac{2}{\beta}}(R) - R^2 g^n(R) \right) \\ &\times \left[\int_0^{r_{pwc}} f_{cc}(x) \frac{(x^\alpha P_{max})^n}{r_{pwc}^{n\alpha}} dx + \int_{r_{pwc}} f_{cc}(x) P_{max}^n dx \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$= \frac{2\lambda\pi P_{\max}^n}{(n\beta - 2)R^{n\beta - 2}} \int_H f_h(h)h^n dh \times \left(\int_0^{r_{\text{pwc}}} \frac{f_{\text{cc}}(x)x^{n\alpha}}{r_{\text{pwc}}^{n\alpha}} dr + \int_{r_{\text{pwc}}}^{\infty} f_{\text{cc}}(x)dx \right). \quad (37)$$

The first equality of (37) is obtained based on the following fact

$$\left[\frac{\partial^n}{\partial \omega^n} \right]_{\omega=0} e^{a\omega} = \left[\frac{\partial^n}{\partial \omega^n} \right]_{\omega=0} \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a\omega)^n}{n!} = a^n. \quad (38)$$

In the last equality of (37), the first integral can be expressed as

$$\int_H f_h(h)h^n dh = e^{n\mu + \frac{n^2\sigma^2}{2}} \quad (39)$$

with μ and σ^2 given in (3) and (4), respectively. Also, the sum of the last two integrals in (37) can be simplified as

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^{r_{\text{pwc}}} \frac{f_{\text{cc}}(x)x^{n\alpha}}{r_{\text{pwc}}^{n\alpha}} dx + \int_{r_{\text{pwc}}}^{\infty} f_{\text{cc}}(x)dx \\ &= \frac{n\alpha(n\alpha - 2) \cdots 2}{r_{\text{pwc}}^{n\alpha} (2\pi\lambda)^{\frac{n\alpha}{2}}} \left(1 - e^{-\lambda\pi r_{\text{pwc}}^2} \right) \\ & \quad - \sum_{i=1}^{\frac{n\alpha}{2}-1} \frac{n\alpha(n\alpha - 2) \cdots (n\alpha - 2i + 2)}{(2\pi\lambda r_{\text{pwc}}^2)^i} r_{\text{pwc}}^{n\alpha - 2i} e^{-\lambda\pi r_{\text{pwc}}^2}. \end{aligned} \quad (40)$$

Substituting (39) and (40) into (37) yields (26).

D. Derivation of (29)

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_{\Psi}(\omega) &= \lim_{l \rightarrow \infty} \exp \left\{ \lambda\pi D_l \left(E \left(e^{i\omega p_{\text{pwc}} g(V)h} \right) - 1 \right) \right\} \\ &= \lim_{l \rightarrow \infty} \exp \left\{ \lambda\pi D_l \left[\int_H f_h(h) \int_0^{\infty} f_{\text{cc}}(x) \int_0^{2\pi} \int_R \frac{r e^{i\omega p_{\text{pwc}}(x)g(r_{\text{cp}}(r,\theta))h}}{\pi D_l} dr d\theta dx dh - 1 \right] \right\} \\ &= \lim_{l \rightarrow \infty} \exp \left\{ \lambda \int_H f_h(h) \int_0^{\infty} f_{\text{cc}}(x) \int_0^{2\pi} \int_R r e^{i\omega p_{\text{pwc}}(x)g(r_{\text{cp}}(r,\theta))h} - r dr d\theta dx dh \right\} \end{aligned} \quad (41)$$

with $D_l = l^2 - R^2$. The first equality in (41) is obtained in the same way as (34) and (35). Equation (29) can be obtained immediately from (41).

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