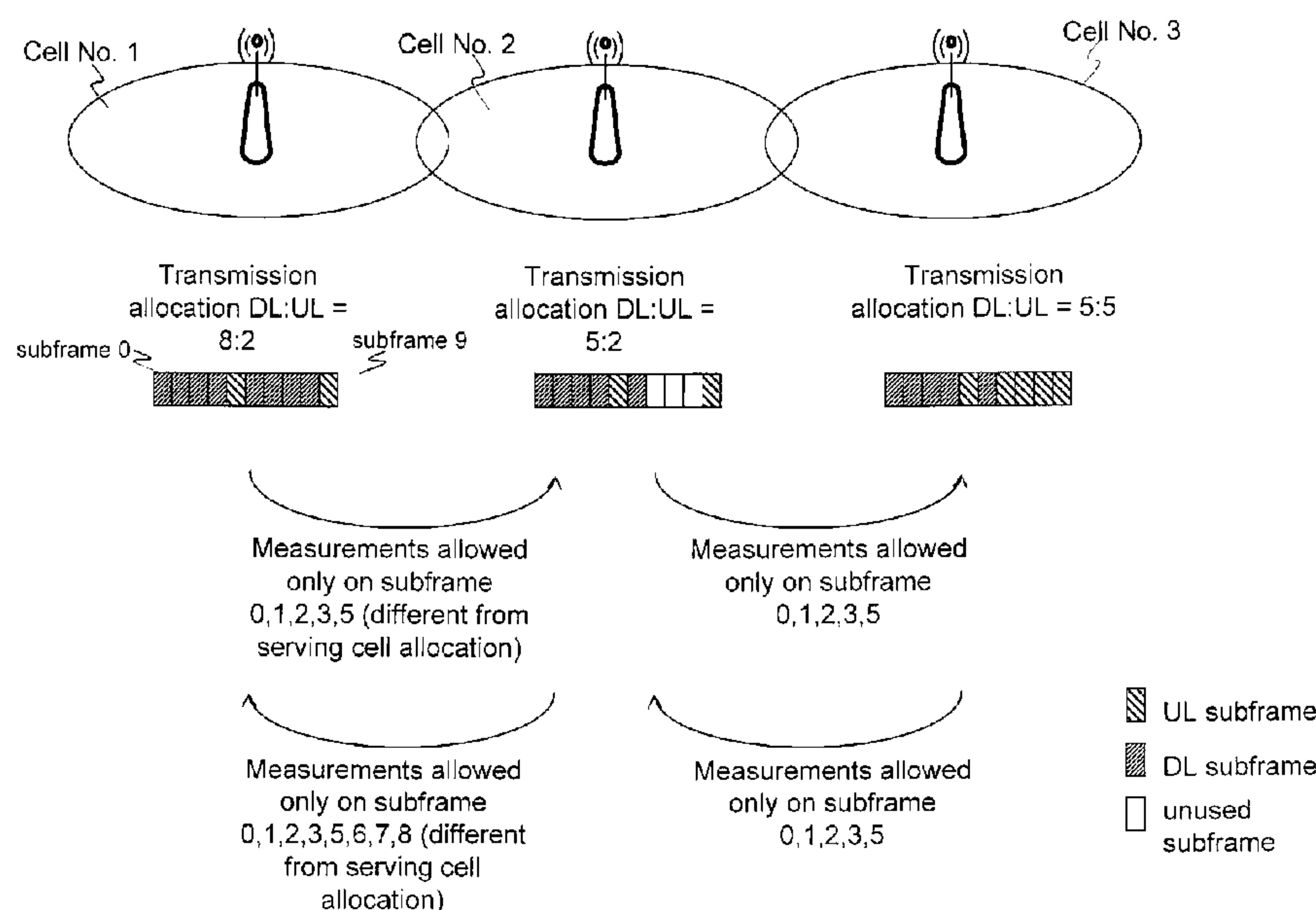




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MESURES RELATIVES A DES CELLULES VOISINES
(54) Title: INFORMATION ON REFERENCE SIGNAL STRUCTURE FOR NEIGHBOURING CELL MEASUREMENTS



(57) Abrégé/Abstract:

The present invention relates to cellular radio communication and in particular to providing information on neighbour cells to enable terminals to perform neighbour cell measurements. In the prior art the terminal attempts to make neighbour cell measurements in a reference signal structure that is the same in the neighbour cell as in the cell the terminal camps in. The present invention is based on the insight that the reference signal structure may differ between neighbouring cell for example in the situation of an MBSFN area that is restricted to a region of all cells of a radio network, or in the situation of TDD mode being applied there may be different regions with different allocation of sub-frames for transmission in the uplink and downlink directions. The present invention solves the problem by broadcast information in a cell indicative of the reference signal structure in neighbour cells.

ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to cellular radio communication and in particular to providing information on neighbour cells to enable terminals to perform neighbour 5 cell measurements. In the prior art the terminal attempts to make neighbour cell measurements in a reference signal structure that is the same in the neighbour cell as in the cell the terminal camps in. The present invention is based on the insight that the reference signal structure may 10 differ between neighbouring cell for example in the situation of an MBSFN area that is restricted to a region of all cells of a radio network, or in the situation of TDD mode being applied there may be different regions with different allocation of sub-frames for transmission in the 15 uplink and downlink directions. The present invention solves the problem by broadcast information in a cell indicative of the reference signal structure in neighbour cells.

**INFORMATION ON REFERENCE SIGNAL STRUCTURE FOR NEIGHBOURING
CELL MEASUREMENTS**

TECHNICAL FIELD OF THE INVENTION

5 The present invention relates to cellular radio communication and in particular to provide information to mobile terminals that enable the terminals to carry out measurements on cells neighbouring a cell the terminals camp in. The invention also relates to a radio base station
10 adapted for providing the information, to a mobile terminal and a method for the mobile terminal.

DESCRIPTION OF RELATED ART

In the forthcoming evolution of the mobile cellular standards like GSM and WCDMA, new transmission techniques like OFDM are likely to occur. Furthermore, in order to have a smooth migration from the existing cellular systems to the new high capacity high data rate system in existing radio spectrum, the new system has to be able to operate in a flexible bandwidth. An example of such a new flexible
15 cellular system is 3G Long Term Evolution (3G LTE) that can be seen as an evolution of the 3G WCDMA standard. This system will use OFDM as the downlink transmission scheme and will be able to operate on bandwidths ranging from 1.25 MHz to 20 MHz. Furthermore, data rates up to 100 Mb/s will be
20 supported on the largest bandwidth. LTE will support both FDD and TDD as uplink/downlink duplexing schemes. Furthermore, LTE will also support multicast/broadcast services (MBSFN) on the same carrier as unicast data.

An essential part in any cellular system is support of
30 mobility, i.e., the possibility to move the connection between the terminal and the network from one cell to another cell. To support this, neighboring cell measurements

are used. While the connection is maintained in a serving cell, the terminal measures on some well defined signal in neighboring cells and reports the measurement result to the network. The network can then take a decision, for example 5 based on a signal-to-noise ration measurement made by the terminal, whether the connection should be moved from the serving cell to a new cell.

In order to carry out downlink coherent demodulation, the 10 mobile terminal needs estimates of the downlink channel. A straightforward way to enable channel estimation in case of OFDM transmission is to insert known reference symbols into the OFDM time-frequency grid. In LTE, these reference symbols are jointly referred to as the LTE downlink reference signals.

15 Figure 1 is grid in the time frequency domain, with each square in the grid representing one subcarrier of one OFDM symbol. It serves to demonstrate the LTE downlink reference-signal structure assuming normal cyclic prefix, i.e. seven OFDM symbols per slot. As illustrated in figure 1, downlink 20 reference symbols are inserted within the first and the third last OFDM symbol of each slot and with a frequency-domain spacing of six subcarriers. Furthermore, there is a frequency-domain staggering of three subcarriers between the first and second reference symbols. Within each resource 25 block, consisting of twelve subcarriers during one slot, there are thus four reference symbols. This is true for all sub-frames except sub-frames used for MBSFN-based broadcast/multicast, see further below.

30 The structure in Figure 1 illustrates the reference-signal structure for the case of a single antenna. For various multi-antenna transmission techniques, there is typically one reference signal transmitted for each antenna (the term 'antenna port' is used in the 3GPP specifications) and the

location of the reference signals for the different antennas may be different.

The reference signals can also be used for other purposes than coherent demodulation. One such example is neighboring cell measurements for mobility, where the terminal measures on the reference signal in neighboring cells to support mobility as described above.

One important part of the LTE requirements in terms of spectrum flexibility is the possibility to deploy LTE-based radio-access in both paired and unpaired spectrum, i.e., LTE should support both FDD- and TDD-based duplex arrangements.

Frequency Division Duplex (FDD) as illustrated in the left part of figure 2, implies that downlink and uplink transmission take place in different, sufficiently separated, frequency bands. Time Division Duplex (TDD), as illustrated in the right part of figure 2, implies that downlink and uplink transmission take place in different, non-overlapping time slots. Thus, TDD can operate in unpaired spectrum, whereas FDD requires paired spectrum.

To support TDD operation, a guard time between downlink and uplink timeslots is needed. This can be created by omitting one or several OFDM symbols ("puncturing") in the last sub-frame before the downlink-to-uplink switch. In case a long guard time is needed, some of the reference symbols may need to be punctured in the last sub-frame prior to the switchpoint. The non-punctured part of a subframe used for downlink transmission is sometimes referred to as DwPTS.

In case of TDD operation, uplink and downlink transmission activity should be coordinated between neighboring cells. If this is not done, uplink transmission in one cell may interfere with downlink transmission in the neighboring cell (and vice versa) as illustrated in figure 3. Related to

measurements, the terminal should only make neighbouring cell measurements during downlink transmission slots.

Multi-cell broadcast implies transmission of the same information from multiple cells. By exploiting this at the 5 terminal, effectively using signal power from multiple cell sites at the detection, a substantial improvement in coverage, or in higher broadcast data rates, can be achieved. In LTE, this is implemented by transmitting not only identical signals from multiple cell sites, with 10 identical coding and modulation, but also synchronize the transmission timing between the cells, the signal at the mobile terminal will appear exactly as a signal transmitted from a single cell site and subject to multi-path propagation. Due to the OFDM robustness to multi-path 15 propagation, such multi-cell transmission, also referred to as Multicast-Broadcast Single Frequency Network (MBSFN) transmission, will then not only improve the received signal strength but also eliminate the inter-cell interference. Thus, with OFDM, multi-cell broadcast/multicast capacity may 20 eventually only be limited by noise and can then, in case of small cells, reach extremely high values.

It should also be noted that the use of MBSFN transmission for multi-cell broadcast/multicast assumes the use of tight synchronization and time alignment of the signals 25 transmitted from different cell sites.

For MBSFN, a different reference signal structure is used as illustrated in figure 4. This is needed as the effective channel seen by the terminal in case of MBSFN transmission appears as more frequency-selective than a single-cell 30 unicast transmission. Thus, as unicast data and MBSFN transmissions are time multiplexed in different time slots, the reference signal structure will differ between slots in case of a mixed carrier transmitting both unicast and MBSFN services. In MBSFN sub-frames, only part of the cell-

specific reference signal is present, it occurs in some the first OFDM symbols of the sub-frame as disclosed in figure 4. The OFDM symbols carrying cell-specific reference symbol in the MBSFN sub-frame is a sub-set of the symbols used in a 5 normal sub-frame for carrying cell-specific reference symbols, as can be concluded by comparing figure 1 and figure 4.

Typically, the terminal assumes the same configuration in the neighboring cell as the current cell. In case 10 neighboring cells are configured differently, e.g., different guard times are used in neighboring cells or the MBSFN sub-frame are allocated differently in neighboring cells, the measurements made in the terminal would not correctly reflect the situation.

15

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

In one aspect, the present invention provides a method of broadcasting information in a first cell indicative of a sub-frame specific reference signal structure of the neighbouring 20 cells. The purpose of the broadcast information is to enable terminals in the first cell to perform neighbour cell measurements.

The invention also relates to a method for a mobile station that measures the reference signal of a neighbouring cell 25 assuming it has the physical structure indicated by broadcasting in the cell the mobile terminal camps in. The invention also relates to a mobile station adapted for performing the method.

The invention also relates to a radio base station adapted 30 for performing the method.

In one embodiment, TDD access mode is used, and not all neighbour cells have the same allocation of uplink and

- respectively downlink transmissions in various sub-frames. According to the first embodiment of the invention, only sub-frames used for downlink transmissions by all cells neighbouring the first cell are informed of in broadcasting.
- 5 Alternatively the downlink sub-frames used by respective neighbour cell is indicated by the first cell.

In a second alternative embodiment, some sub-frame/s is/are used for multi-broadcast transmission in one or more of the 10 neighbouring cells, whereas some other of the neighbour cells or the first cell transmit/s a normal sub-frame structure in the same time window. The multi-broadcast sub-frame has another more restricted allocation of symbols for the cell specific reference signal than for the normal sub-15 frame reference structure. In the second embodiment, is broadcast a structure of a sub-set of symbols allocated to symbols in common for both the multi-broadcast sub-frame and for the normal sub-frame. Thereby the terminal will use only the subset of symbols for measures on the reference signal 20 in the neighbour cells.

In some embodiments, there is provided a method of broadcasting downlink in a first cell, the method comprising:

- 25 broadcasting a first reference signal, carried by a first physical structure that comprises normal sub-frames that are allocated to time slots, the first physical structure further involving the first reference signal being carried by predefined orthogonal frequency division multiplexing (OFDM) symbols and by predefined sub-carriers within the sub-frames; and
- 30 broadcasting information indicative of a second physical structure for carrying a second reference signal in a neighbouring cell.

In some embodiments, there is provided a radio base station 35 comprising:

a transceiver arranged to broadcast a first reference signal that has a physical structure that comprise normal sub-frames allocated to time slots, the first physical structure further involving the first reference signal being carried by 5 predefined OFDM symbols;

wherein the transceiver is further arranged to broadcast information indicative of a second physical structure for carrying a second reference signal in a neighbouring cell.

10 In some embodiments, there is provided a method implemented by a terminal, the method comprising:

camping in a first cell which is transmitting a first reference signal carried in a first physical structure, the first physical structure involving the first reference signal 15 being carried by predefined OFDM symbols;

detecting a broadcast indication of a second physical structure that carries a second reference signal in a cell neighbouring the first cell, wherein the indication relates to the allocation of sub-frames in a downlink direction; and

20 measuring the second reference signal in downlink sub-frames based on the detected indication.

In some embodiments, there is provided A mobile terminal comprising a transceiver and a computer, wherein the computer 25 comprises instructions that when executed by the computer performs the following via the transceiver:

camp the mobile terminal in a first cell which is transmitting a first reference signal carried in a first physical structure, the first physical structure involving the 30 first reference signal being carried by predefined OFDM symbols;

detect an indication that is broadcast in the first cell, wherein the indication relates to the allocation of sub-frames in a downlink direction for carrying a second reference signal in a cell neighbouring the first cell; and

35 measure the second reference signal in the downlink direction sub-frames based on the detected indication.

6b

An advantage of the invention is a terminal will make attempts to detect reference signals only in symbols that are carrying the reference signal. Thereby it is possible to have different regions of cells within which the same multicast information is 5 broadcast, or within which the same allocation of sub-frames for respectively uplink and downlink transmissions is used. The present invention is particular needed in cells bordering the different regions of cells, to enable the terminals to accurately detect the reference signals of all the neighbor 10 cells.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1 is grid in the time frequency domain, with each 15 square in the grid representing an OFDM symbol.

Figure 2 is an illustration of FDD mode versus TDD mode, with the respective allocation of time and frequency to the uplink and downlink transmissions

Figure 3 is a view of two cells and a terminal in each cell

5 illustrating a TDD mode interference situation.

Figure 4 is the same type of figure as figure 1, illustrating a different allocation of symbols for carrying the reference signal.

Figure 5 is a view of cells.

10 Figure 6 is a flowchart of method.

Figure 7 is an illustration of different allocation of sub-frames for respective uplink and downlink transmissions in three cells.

Figure 8 is a block diagram of a radio base station.

15 Figure 9 is a flowchart of a method for a mobile station.

Figure 10 is a block diagram of a mobile terminal.

DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

For neighbour cell measurements the cell specific reference

signal shall be used. Informing of the reference signal

20 structure to be used for neighbouring cells measurement separately from the configuration in the serving cell provides several benefits.

MBSFN transmissions in neighboring cells may use different

sub-frames without affecting the possibility to perform

25 accurate neighboring cell measurements. Although using time aligned transmissions for MBSFN is useful in case the full benefits of MBSFN are to be exploited, at the border between different MBSFN regions this is not the case. The invention makes it possible to set up different regions of

broadcasting the same MBSFN data. Within a region the same sub-frame allocation is used for broadcasting the MBSFN data. Thereby the broadcasting of information of interest only in a specific geographical area can be restricted to 5 that area. Figure 5 illustrates a number of cells spread in the geography, some of them included in a MBSFN region. A first cell neighbouring the MBSFN region, transmits normal sub-frames in the same time windows as is used in the MBSFN region for MBSFN sub-frames. Also other cells neighbouring 10 the first cell transmit normal sub-frames in the same time window. The physical structure of the normal frame reference signals is disclosed in figure 1. The reference signal structure of MBSFN sub-frames is disclosed in figure 4. The symbols allocated to carry the reference signal in the MBSFN 15 sub-frame overlap in their sequential position and on the frequency sub-carrier with symbols used for carrying reference signals in the normal sub-frames. The first cell broadcast information on the reference signal being carried by the symbols as in the structure of MBSFN broadcasting. 20 Terminals camping in the first cell will then attempt to detect the cell specific reference signals according to the structure of the reference signal physical structure in the MBSFN sub-frame for all neighbouring cells albeit some of them transmit normal sub-frames. The symbols that carry cell 25 specific reference signal in a MBSFN sub-frame are also used in a normal sub-frame for the same purpose.

Figure 6 is a flowchart of the method of broadcasting in the first cell, according to the two steps:

- Broadcasting a first reference signal, and that has a 30 first physical structure (S1). In the situation described as an example the first cell is not included in the MBSFN region and the first reference signal structure is the structure of the normal sub-frame.

- Broadcasting information indicative of a second reference signal structure and that is to be used by terminals for performing neighbour cell measurements.

An alternative embodiment relates to a TDD access mode system when the first cell is located between two regions applying different allocations of sub-frames for respectively UL and DL transmission. A terminal can measure on a neighbour cell only when DL transmission direction is applied in the neighbour cell. When TDD access mode is applied, coordinating the UL and DL transmissions to the same sub-frames in all the cells of a region, and to synchronize the transmissions in the region is advantageous because interference between base stations and between terminals is mitigated. However, there might be a need to differ the balance of allocation of UL resources versus DL resources in response to different demand in different regions. Different uplink-downlink allocations can be used in different cells, assuming proper planning. This is illustrated in figure 7, with a three cells, wherein cell No. 1 and cell No. 3 belongs to two different regions with cell no. 2 in between. The three cells have different allocations of sub-frames for respective UL and DL transmission directions. Cell No.1 to the left have 8 of its 10 sub-frames dedicated for the DL, and they are have the sequential numbers 0,1,2,3,5,6,7,8, leaving the remaining two sub-frames No. 4 and 9 for the UL direction. A cell No. 2 in the middle of figure 5, has 5 sub-frames allocated for the DL direction, i.e. sub-frames numbered 0,1,2,3,5. Two sub-frames are allocated for the UL direction, they are numbered 4 and 9. Three sub-frames, No. 6-8 are left unused. A cell No. 3, to the right in figure 5, has 5 sub-frames each to the UL and to the DL directions. The DL sub-frames are allocated to sub-frames numbers 0,1,2,3,5 and the remaining sub-frames are allocated to the UL direction. In this case, there is a mechanism to reserve sub-frames to one

of the three purposes "uplink", "downlink", or "unused" in contrast to the, in conventional TDD systems, allocation to one of "uplink" or "downlink".

5 In cell No. 2, the broadcast information on which sub-frames to use for performing neighbour cell measurements, would, in a first alternative be restricted to sub-frames no. 0,1,2,3,5 because this group is common for both neighbour cell No.1 and neighbour cell No. 3. Also broadcast information in cell No. 1, and cell No. 3 for measurements 10 on respective neighbours should be restricted to the use of sub-frames No. 0,1,2,3,5.

In an alternative embodiment the information broadcast by is not only sub-frame specific but also neighbour cell specific. Thus, cell No. 2 broadcast that sub-frames No. 15 0,1,2,3,5,6,7,8 are available for measurements on cell No. 1, whereas for measurements on cell No. 3 only sub-frames 0,1,2,3,5 may be used. This alternative embodiment is also disclosed in the text of figure 7.

20 Also in the case of MBSFN transmission, the sub-frame structure is neighbour cell specific. The information on the reference signal structure is alternatively cell specific for the various neighbour cells.

25 In the TDD mode, some of the symbols normally used for carrying the reference signals may be punctured for increasing the Guard period between sub-frames for DL to UL transmission. The last reference symbols in the last DL sub-frame may then be lost. The first cell shall then broadcast information of the reference signal physical structure in the same way as is described for the MBSFN embodiment.

30 It should further be noted that MBSFN transmission may occur both in FDD mode and in TDD mode. In the case of TDD mode information on what sub-frames to use as well as physical

reference signal structure within each used sub-frame need be broadcast.

The information indicative of the reference signal structure, need not relate to the all the symbols carrying the reference signals or to all sub-frames used in DL, it may be restricted to sub- frames or to symbols that shall be used by the mobile terminal for making neighbour cell measurements. This is in particular relevant to the embodiments when the information is indicative of the 10 smallest subset of sub-frames or of symbols that are used by all neighbour cells.

Moreover, the broadcast information only need be indicative of a physical structure. For example different classes of physical structures may have been predefined, and the first 15 cell just broadcast the classification of the different sub-frames.

Figure 8 is a block diagram of a radio base station adapted for performing the invention. The radio base station comprises a radio transceiver including an antenna system, 20 and a data processor controlling the operation of the radio base station according to software. The software is updated to control the broadcasting including an indication of the second reference signal according to the method. The radio base station also comprises an X2 interface for connection 25 to neighbouring radio base station. The signalling information received via the X2 interface is detected by the data processor and the indication of the second reference signal structure as broadcast can be updated autonomously by the radio base station in accordance with information 30 received via the X2 interface.

Figure 9 is a flowchart of the steps performed by a mobile terminal, or UE (User Equipment) as is the name of the LTE mobile terminal. Initially the mobile is camping in a first

cell, either in connected mode with the first cell acting serving cell or in idle mode. The first cell transmits a cell specific reference signal according to a first physical structure. In the first step, 91, the mobile terminal reads 5 indication on a second physical structure for a reference signal. The indication is broadcast in the first cell. In a next step, 92, the terminal measures a reference signal in one or more neighbouring cells, assuming the reference signal is carried by symbols according to the indicated 10 second physical structure.

The indication of second physical structure typically indicates one in a predefined a set of physical structures. The mobile terminal as manufactured or as including a SIM-card (Subscription Identity Module), possesses information 15 on the set of possible physical structures for the reference signal.

Figure 10 is a block diagram of the mobile terminal. It comprises a transceiver, including an antenna, and computer including software. The computer and software may be 20 distributed and part of it residing in the SIM-card. The software is adapted for detecting the broadcast indication of a the second physical structure of the reference signal, and to control the measuring of reference signal in neighbouring cells to be made on the symbols that is 25 indicated to carry the reference signal.

So far the invention has been described in a LTE system applying a single antenna. The LTE is also standardised for alternative multi-antenna transmission techniques and then typically one reference signal is transmitted for each 30 antenna and the physical structure of symbols assigned for carrying the respective reference signal within the sub-frames, is almost the same. The reference signal structure of antenna 1 is the same as the reference signal for antenna 0 with, the exception of the OFDM symbol is shifted 3 sub-

carriers in the frequency domain relative to the symbols on carrier 0. The frame timing on the two antennas is synchronized.

The physical structure of the plural reference signals allocated to multi-antenna cells, is one of the predefined sets of physical structure the mobile terminal possesses information on. Accordingly the multi-antenna system physical structure may be broadcast in a cell, and the mobile terminals assume this physical structure when making neighbour cell measurements.

Abbreviations:

DL downlink

UL uplink

UE User Equipment, i.e. the name of the mobile terminal in the LTE system

MBSFN - a 3GPP specific term used for multibroadcast, i.e. synchronized broadcasting of the same information in a plurality of cells. In some literature this is also referred to as Single-Frequency Network (SFN).

What is claimed is:

1. A method of broadcasting downlink in a first cell, the method comprising:
 - broadcasting a first reference signal, carried by a first physical structure that comprises normal sub-frames that are allocated to time slots, the first physical structure further involving the first reference signal being carried by predefined orthogonal frequency division multiplexing (OFDM) symbols and by predefined sub-carriers within the sub-frames; and
 - broadcasting information indicative of a second physical structure for carrying a second reference signal in a neighbouring cell.
2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the first physical structure also comprises multicast/broadcast single frequency network (MBSFN) sub-frames, wherein the predefined OFDM symbols differ between the normal sub-frame and the MBSFN sub-frame.
3. The method according to claim 2, wherein the information indicative of the second physical structure relates to the allocation of time slots for carrying the MBSFN sub-frames.
4. The method according to claim 3, wherein the information indicative of the second physical structure is indicative of which symbols in each sub-frame to use for neighbour cell measurements.
5. The method according to claim 4, wherein the symbols carrying the first reference signal are allocated to one or more of a set of sub-carriers and to one or more predefined positions in a sequence of symbols within each sub-frame.

6. The method according to claim 4, wherein the information indicative of the second physical structure is only indicative of those symbols used by all neighbour cells of the first cell for carrying reference signals in each sub-frame for the purpose of reference signal measurements.
7. The method according to claim 1, wherein the information indicative of the second physical structure relates to the allocation of time slots for a downlink transmission direction.
8. The method according to claim 7, wherein the information indicative of the second physical structure includes information on which of the sub-frames to use for the neighbour cell measurements.
9. The method according to claim 8, wherein the one or more sub-frames to use for the neighbour cell measurements are sub-frames used for downlink transmissions by all neighbour cells of the first cell.
10. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 9, wherein said information indicative of the second physical structure is for use by mobile terminals to perform neighbour cell measurements.
11. The method according to claim 1, wherein the second physical structure is indicated by a sub-frame classification.
12. The method according to claim 1, wherein the first and the second reference signal are specific for the cell they are broadcast in.

13. The method according to claim 1, wherein one or more of the time slots are not used for the allocation in a downlink transmission direction.

14. A radio base station comprising:

a transceiver arranged to broadcast a first reference signal that has a physical structure that comprise normal sub-frames allocated to time slots, the first physical structure further involving the first reference signal being carried by predefined OFDM symbols;

wherein the transceiver is further arranged to broadcast information indicative of a second physical structure for carrying a second reference signal in a neighbouring cell.

15. The radio base station of claim 14, further comprising a data processor that is arranged to control the information indicative of the second physical structure to relate to the allocation of time slots for a downlink transmission direction.

16. The radio base station of claim 14 or 15, wherein the first physical structure also comprises MBSFN sub-frames, wherein the predefined OFDM symbols differ between the normal sub-frame and the MBSFN sub-frame.

17. The radio base station of claim 16, further comprising a data processor that is arranged to control the information indicative of the second physical structure to relate to the allocation of time slots for carrying the MBSFN sub-frames.

18. The radio base station of any one of claims 14 to 17, further comprising an interface arranged to connect the radio base station to external units for receiving information on the second physical structure and that is connected to a data processor of the radio base station.

19. The radio base station of claim 14, wherein one or more of the time slots are not used for the allocation in a downlink transmission direction.

20. A method implemented by a terminal, the method comprising:

camping in a first cell which is transmitting a first reference signal carried in a first physical structure, the first physical structure involving the first reference signal being carried by predefined OFDM symbols;

detecting a broadcast indication of a second physical structure that carries a second reference signal in a cell neighbouring the first cell, wherein the indication relates to the allocation of sub-frames in a downlink direction; and

measuring the second reference signal in downlink sub-frames based on the detected indication.

21. The method of claim 20, wherein the detected indication further relates to OFDM symbols carrying the second reference signal and wherein the measuring on the second reference signal is made on the OFDM symbols as indicated.

22. A mobile terminal comprising a transceiver and a computer, wherein the computer with software and via the transceiver is operable to:

camp the mobile terminal in a first cell which is transmitting a first reference signal carried in a first physical structure, the first physical structure involving the first reference signal being carried by predefined OFDM symbols;

detect an indication that is broadcast in the first cell, wherein the indication relates to the allocation of sub-frames in a downlink direction for carrying a second reference signal in a cell neighbouring the first cell; and
measure the second reference signal in the downlink direction sub-frames based on the detected indication.

23. The mobile terminal of claim 22, wherein the detected indication further relates to OFDM symbols carrying the second reference signal and wherein the measuring on the second reference signal is made on the OFDM symbols as indicated.
24. The method of claim 20 or 21, wherein the first and the second reference signals are specific to the cell they are transmitted in.
25. The mobile terminal of claim 22 or 23, wherein the first and the second reference signals are specific to the cell they are transmitted in.

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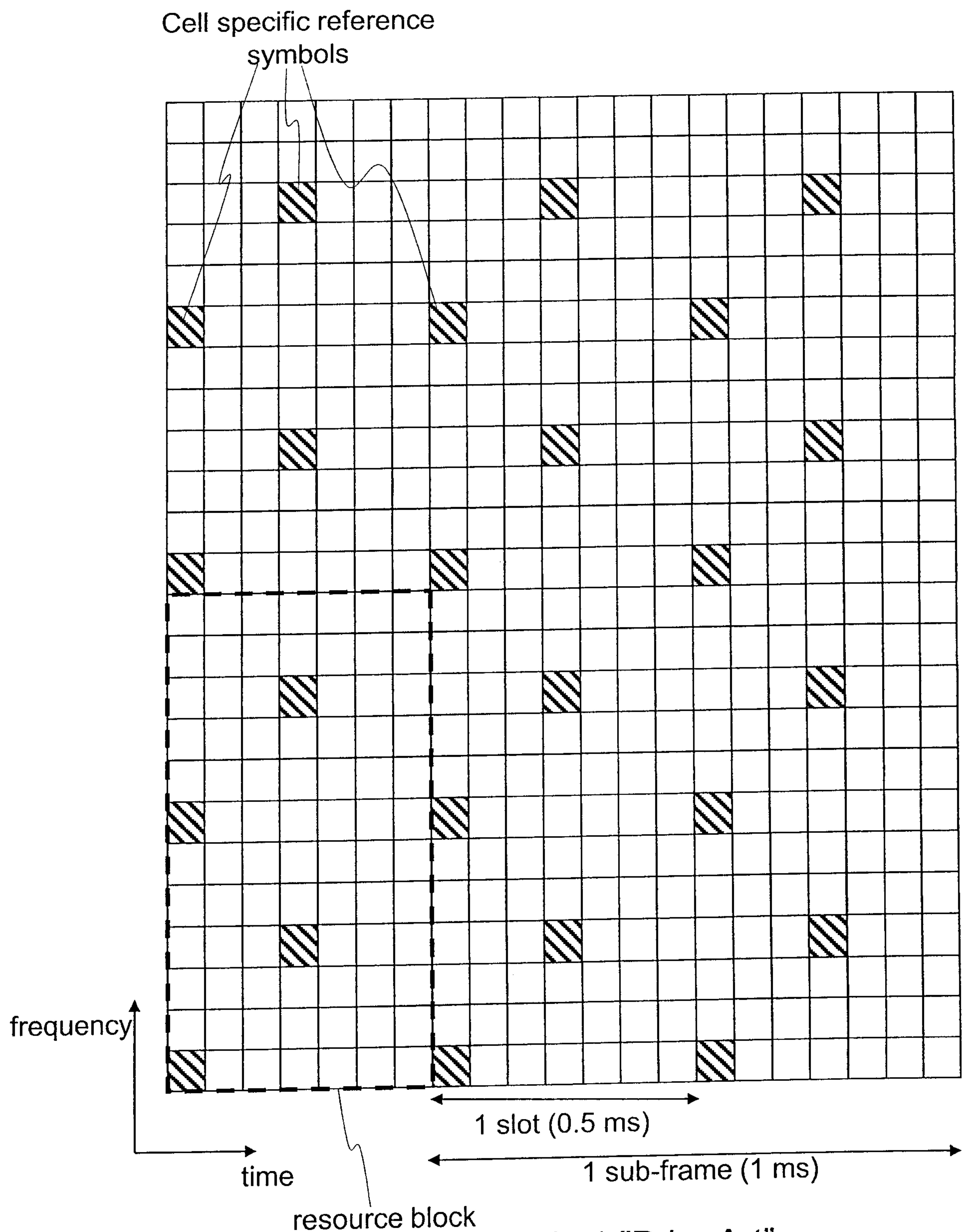


FIG. 1 "Prior Art"

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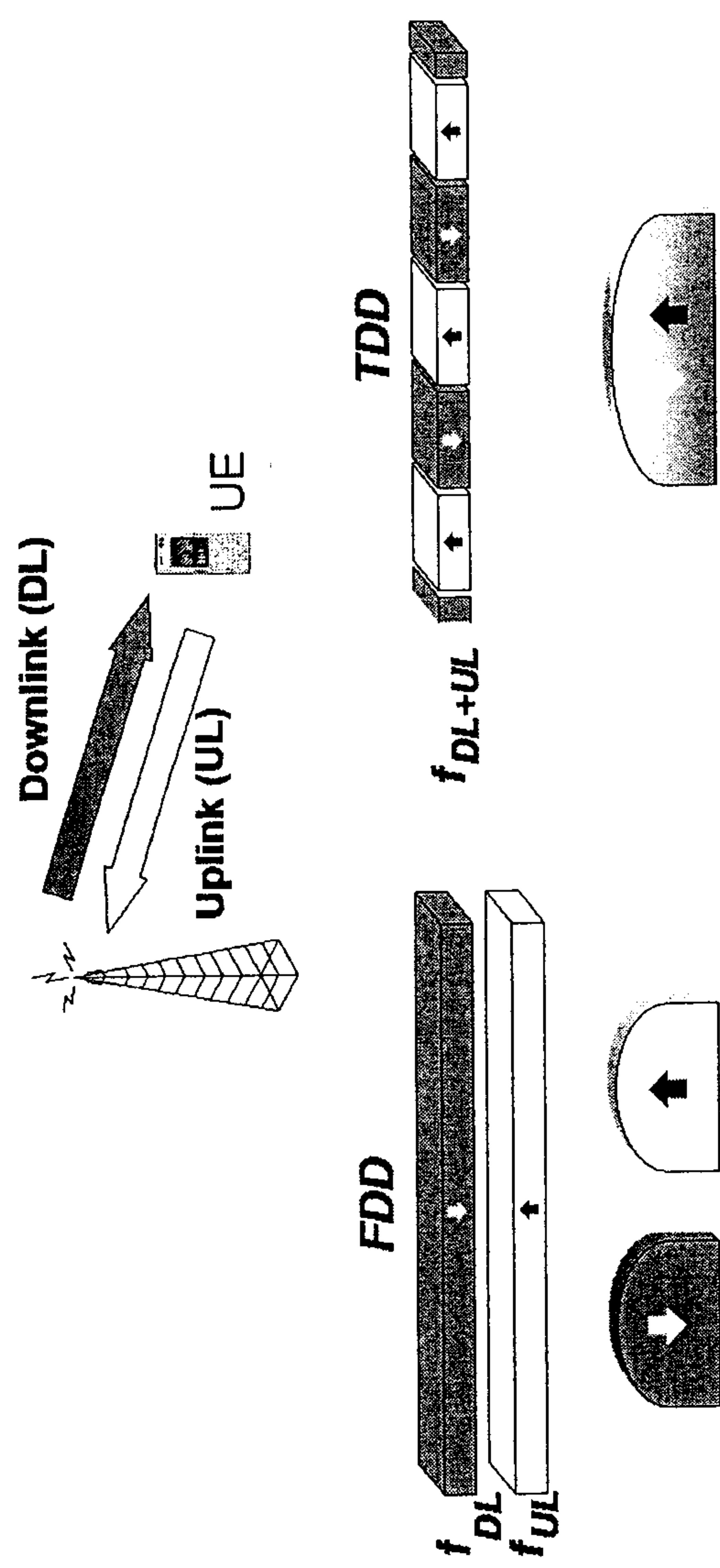


Fig. 2 "Prior Art"

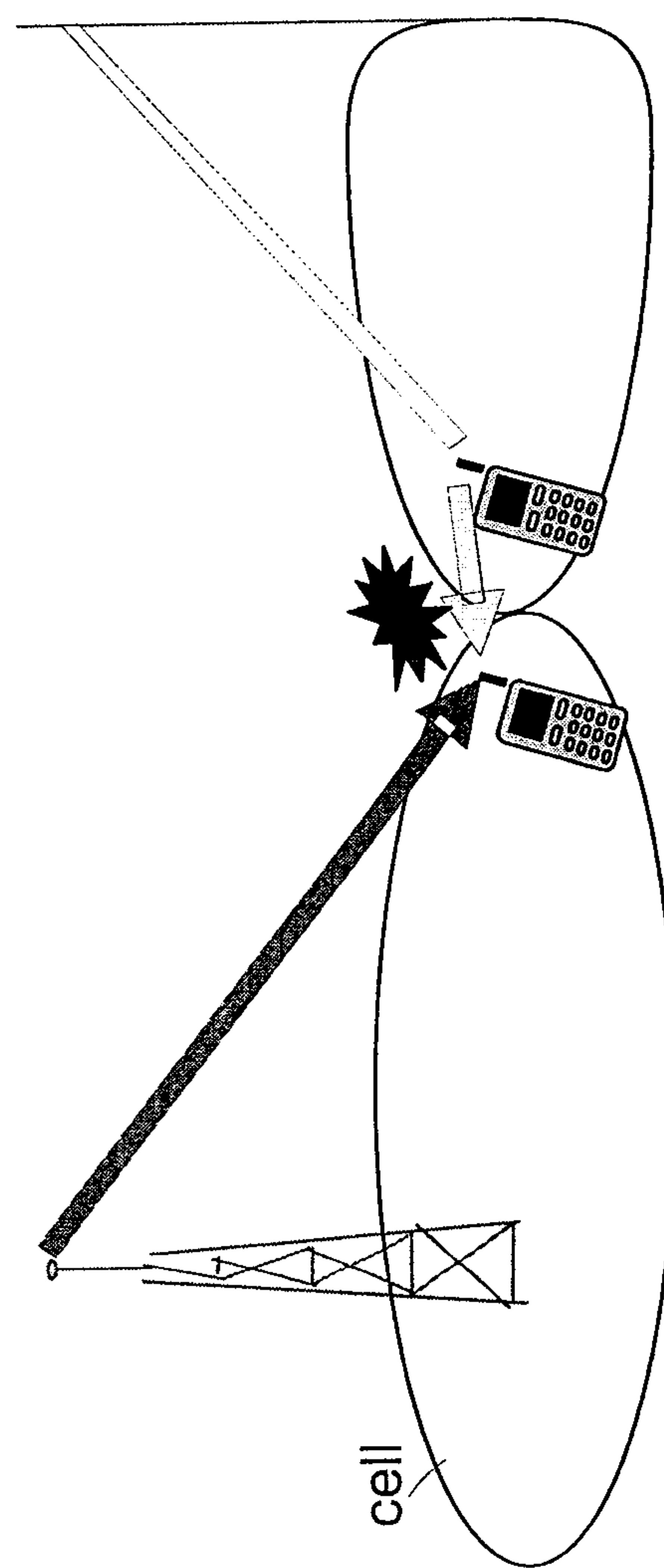


Fig. 3 "Prior Art"

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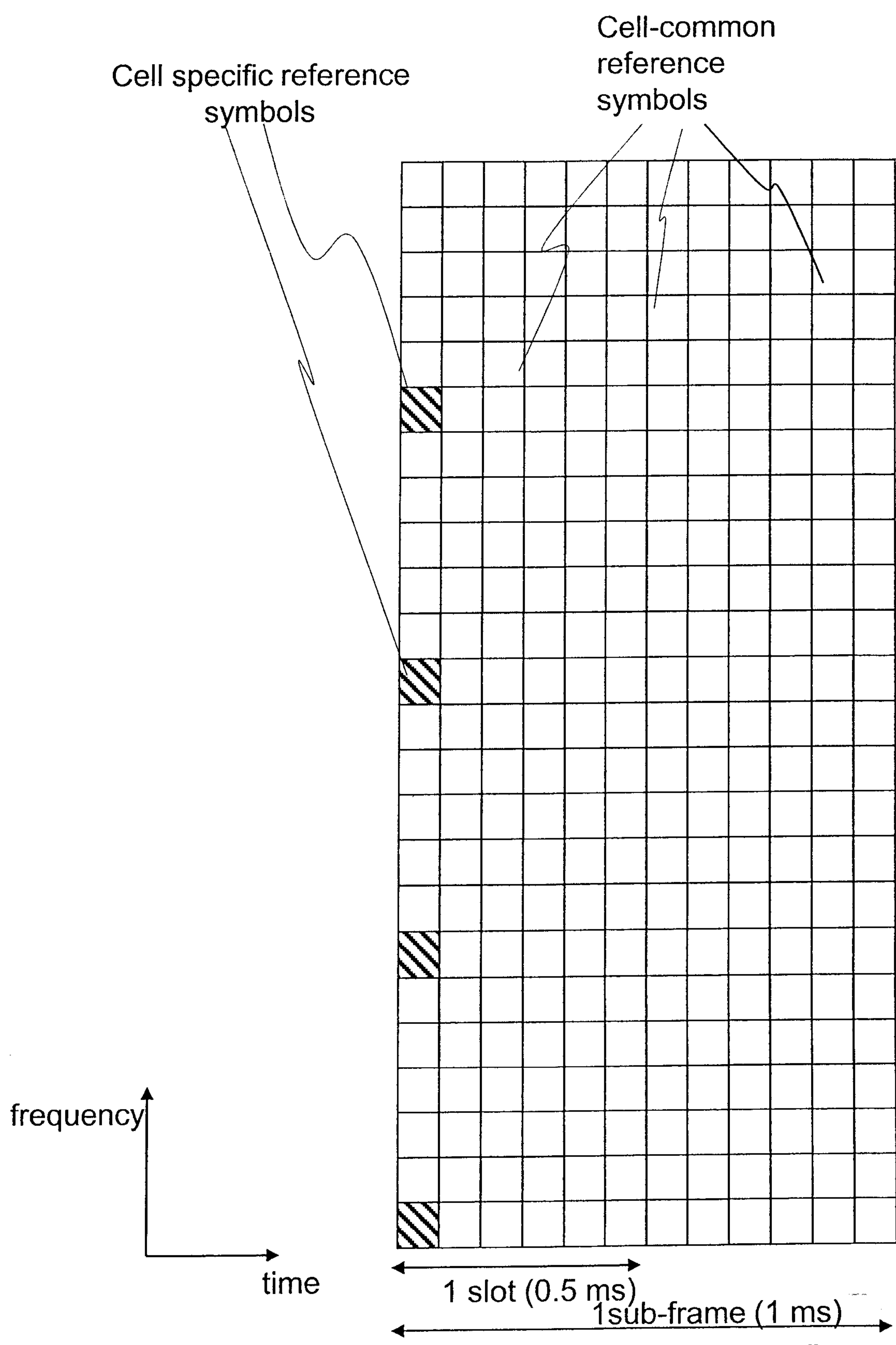


FIG. 4 "Prior Art"

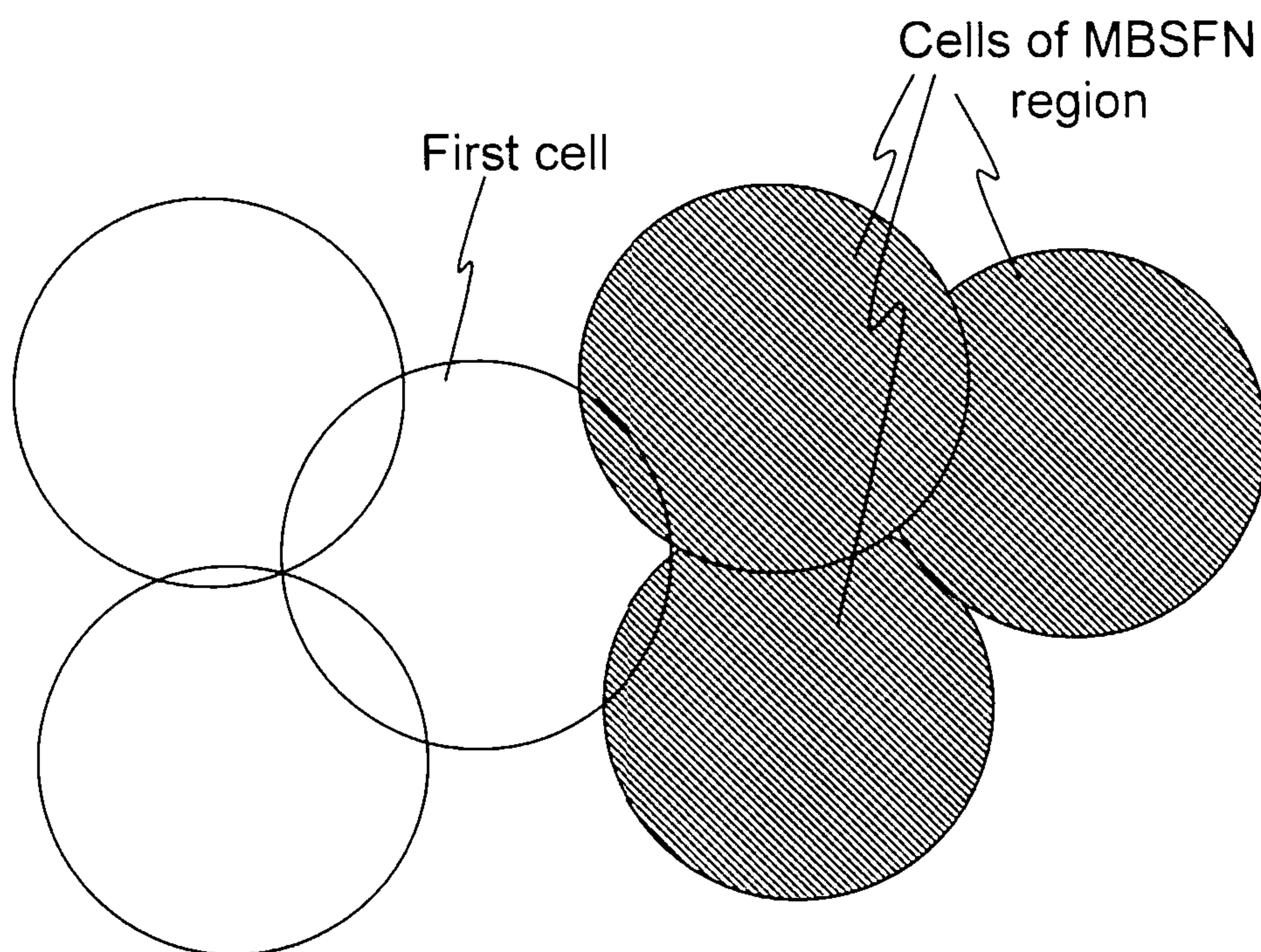


Fig. 5

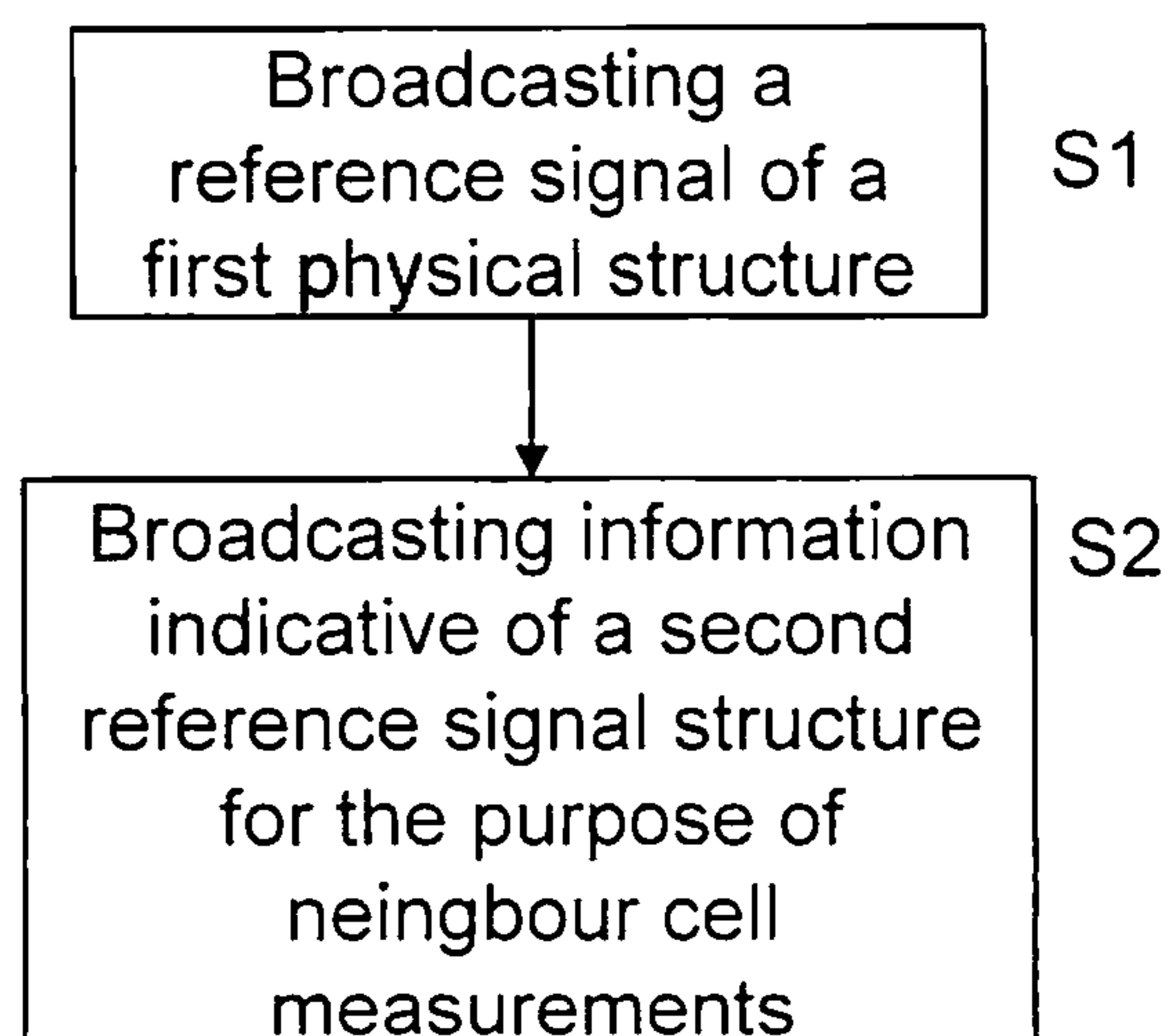


Fig. 6

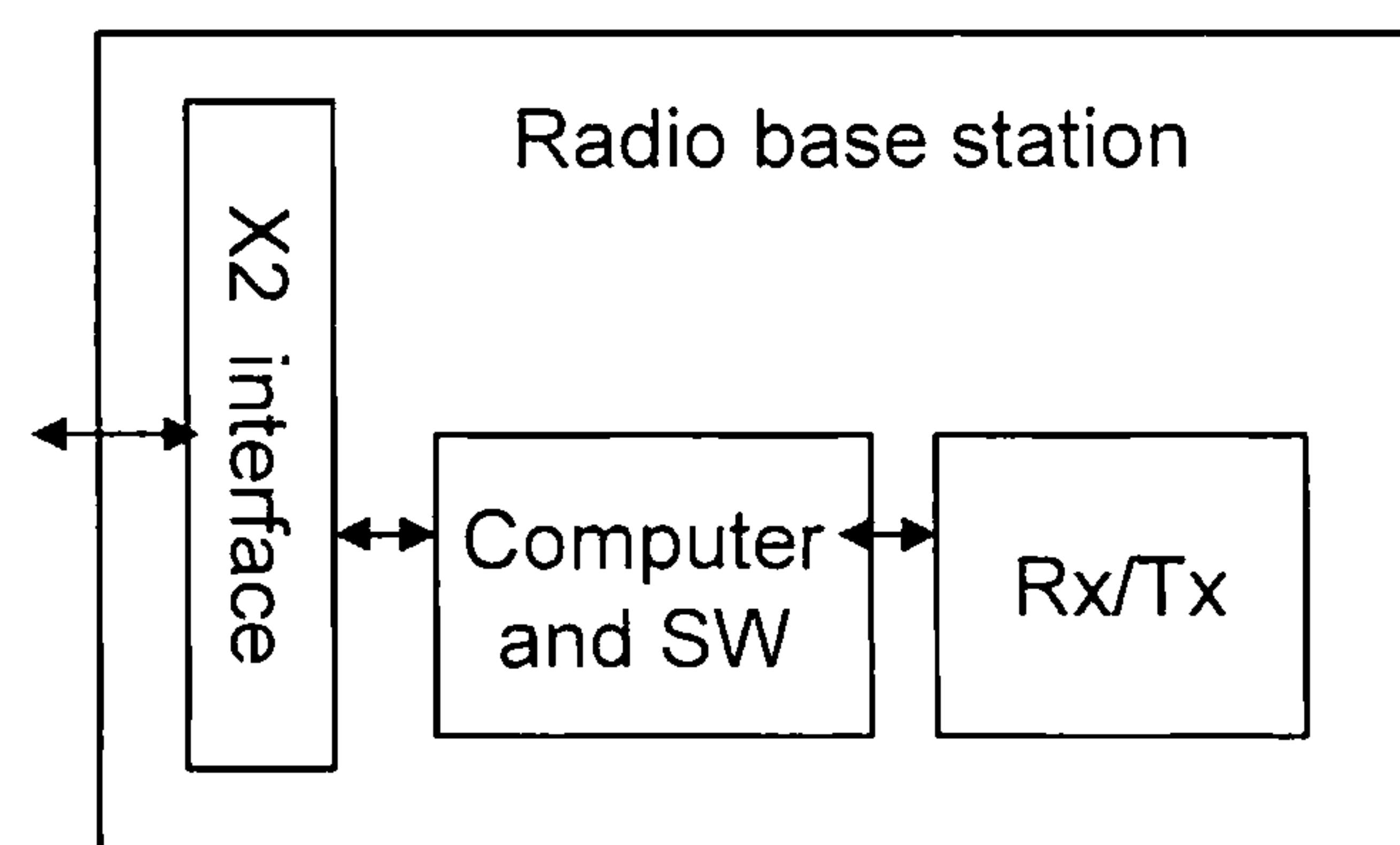


Fig. 8

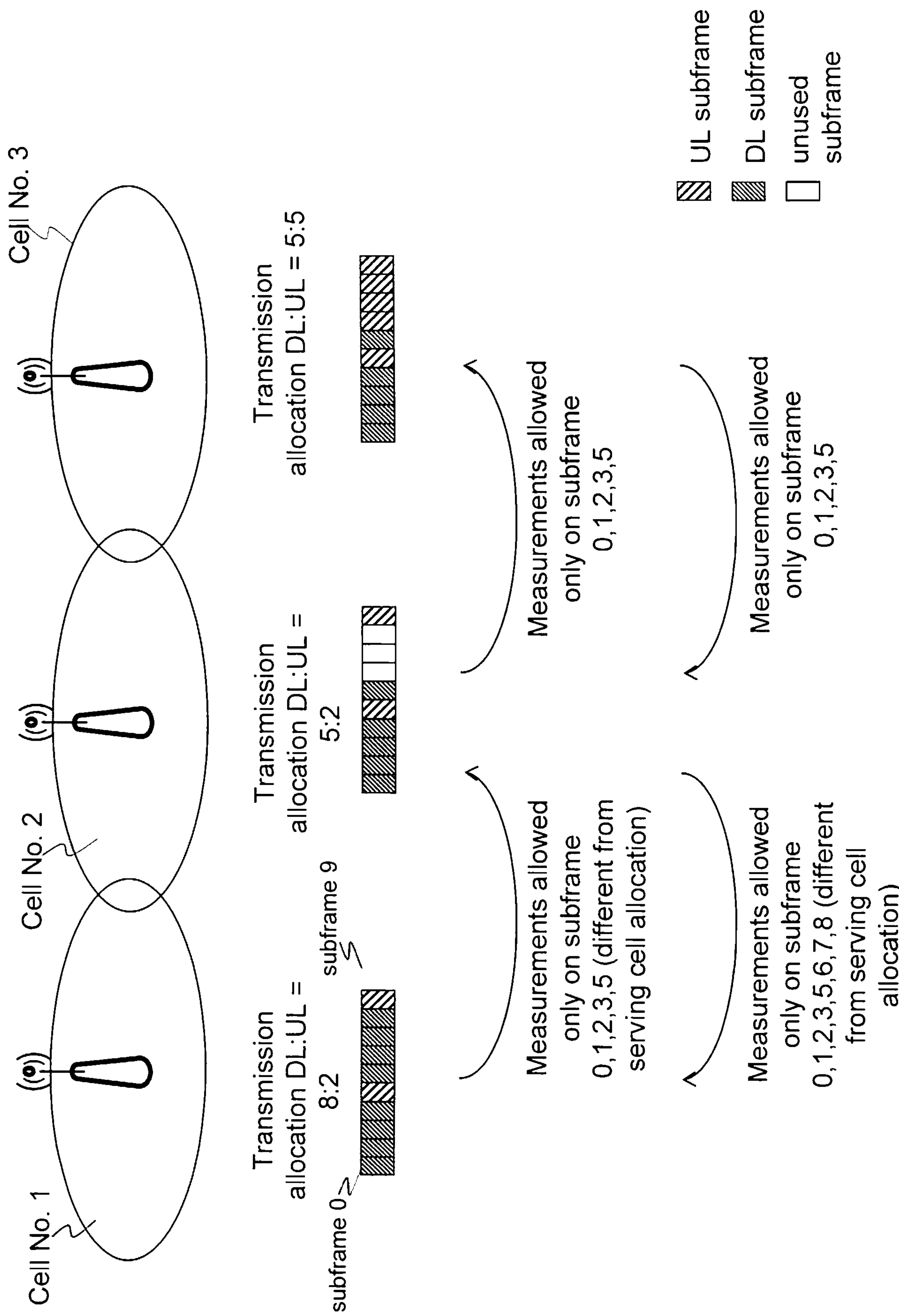


Fig. 7

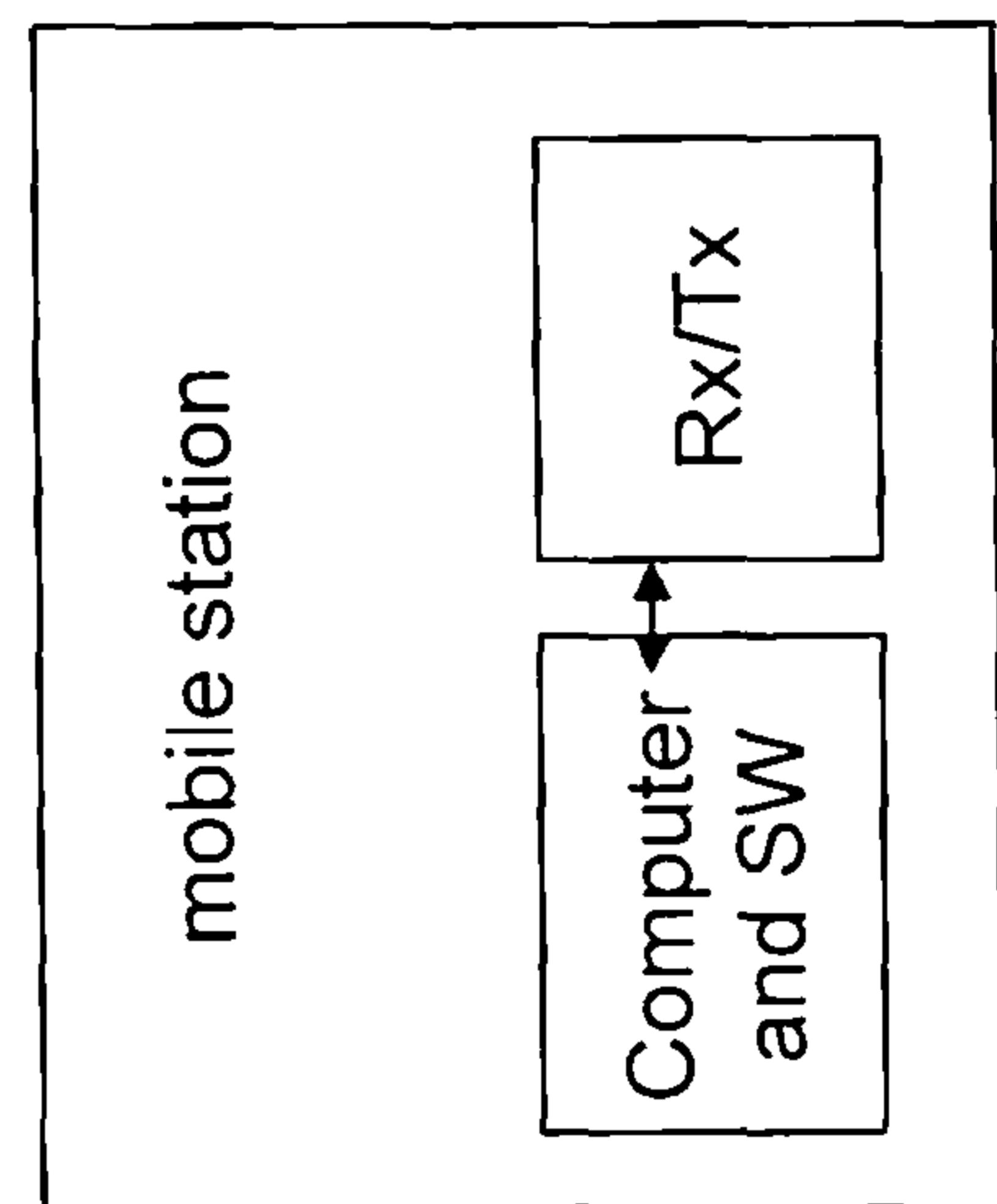


Fig. 10

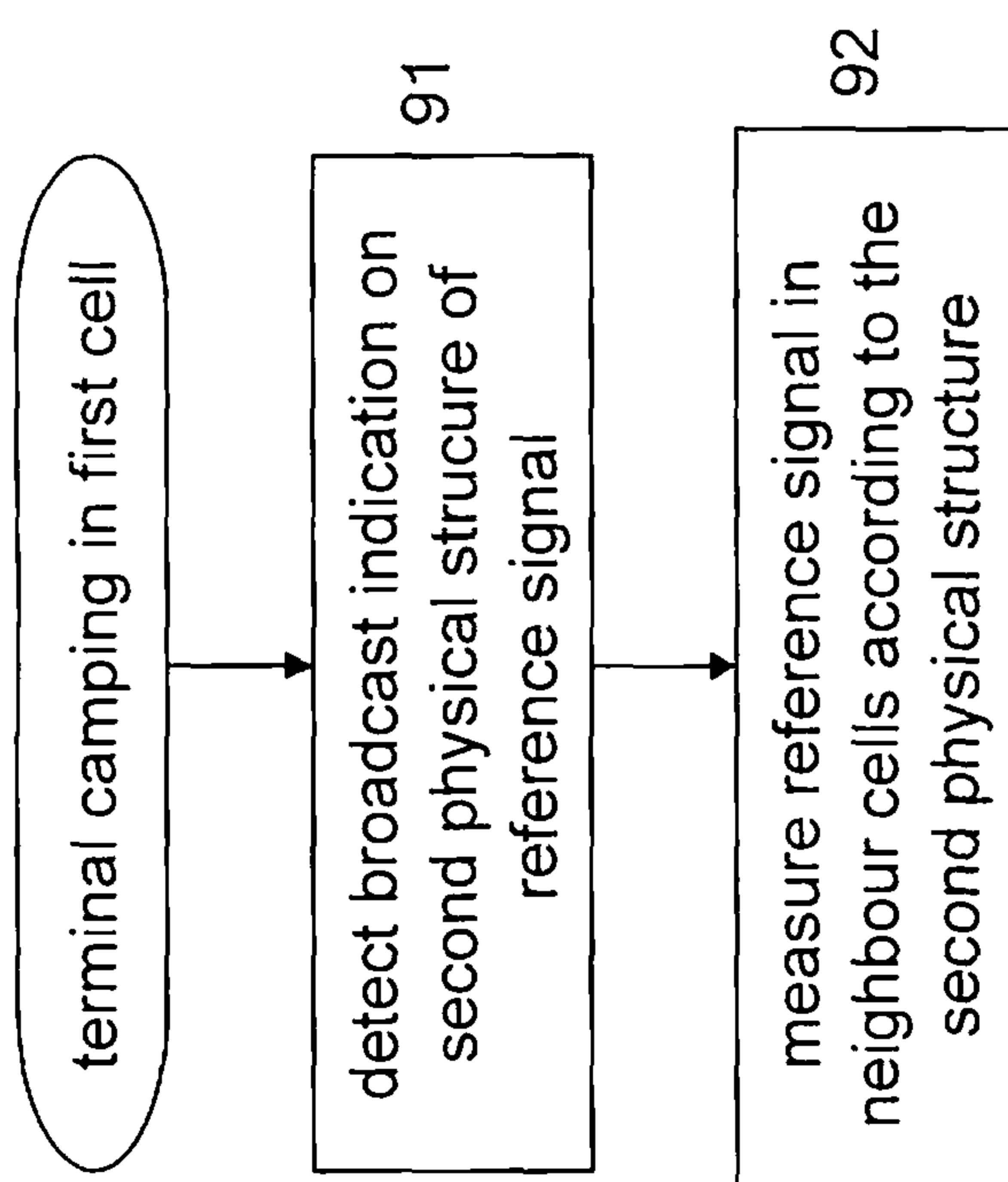
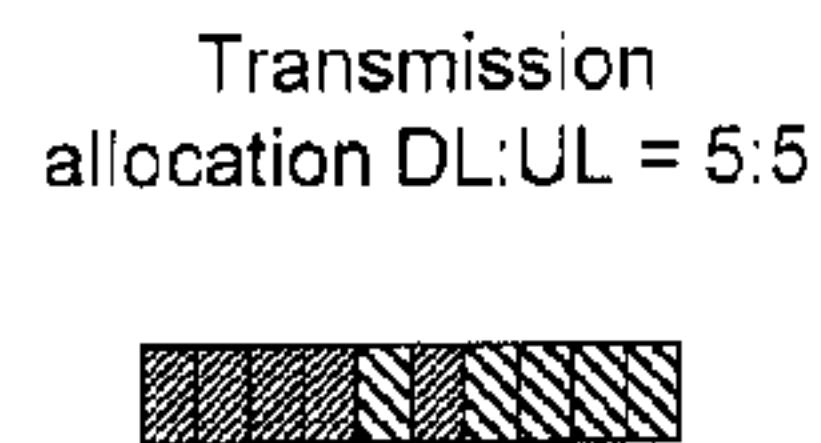
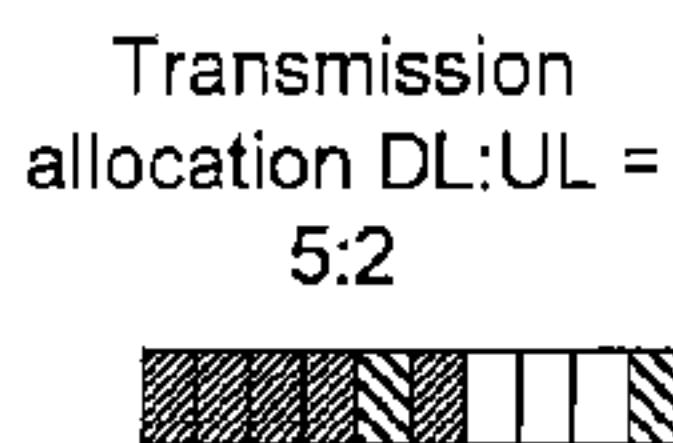
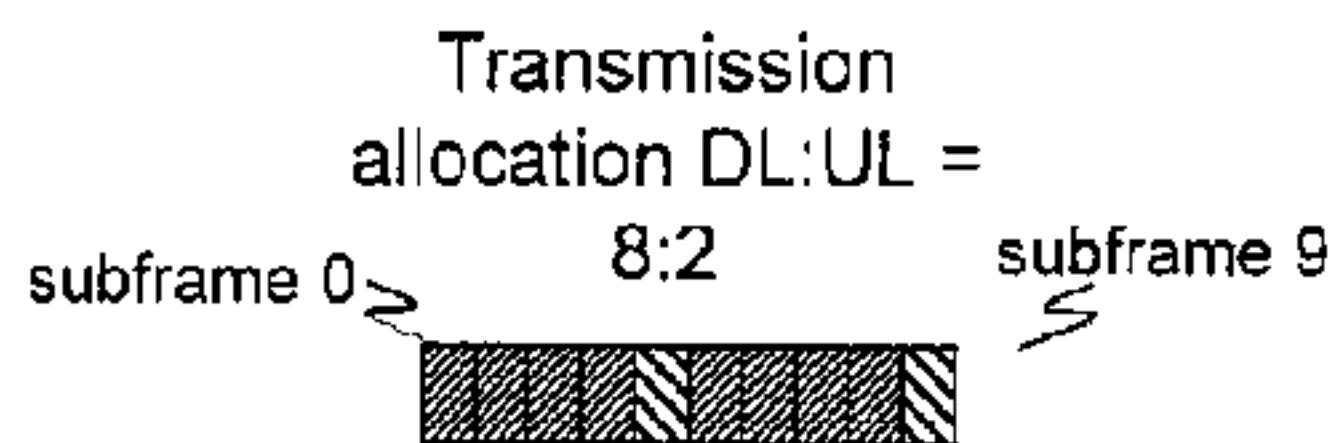
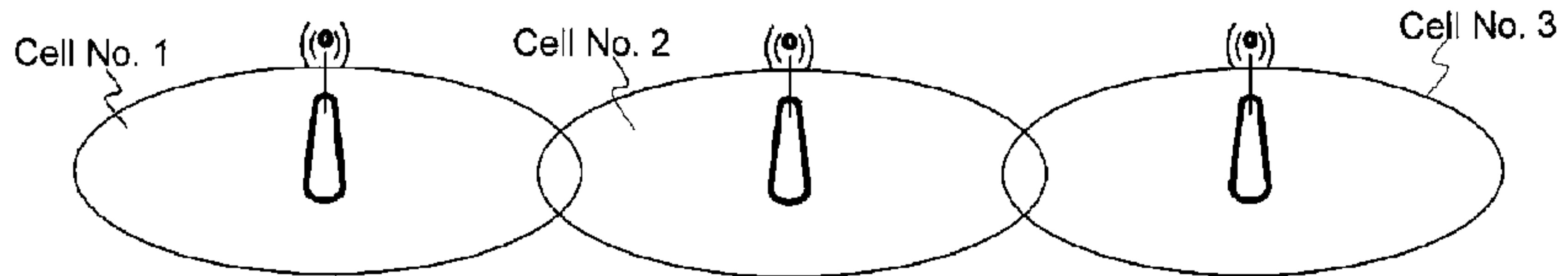


Fig. 9



Measurements allowed only on subframe 0,1,2,3,5 (different from serving cell allocation)

Measurements allowed only on subframe 0,1,2,3,5,6,7,8 (different from serving cell allocation)

Measurements allowed only on subframe 0,1,2,3,5

Measurements allowed only on subframe 0,1,2,3,5

- ▨ UL subframe
- ▨ DL subframe
- unused subframe