

Harvesting Unlicensed & Shared Spectrum with 5G: Opportunities and Challenges

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Demand for Wireless Capacity Ever Increasing

Supply Struggles to Keep Pace with Demand



Traditional Capacity Improvement Strategies





Capacity Drivers in a 5G World







Spectrum Sharing Regimes





Opportunities for Holistic Capacity Management Using Multiple Systems

Driven by Policy



Driven by Network Conditions

Example of Multi-Tier Spectrum Sharing Framework

Citizens Broadband Radio Service (CBRS)

Designed to Encourage Innovation, Competition, Smaller Players

- Protected Tier 1 player (Incumbent)
- Lightly licensed Tier 2 uses spectrum when incumbent isn't using

Unlicensed Tier 3 players use spectrumopportunistically when Tiers 1 and 2 are not using the band

Affordable Tier 2 licenses, allocated per census tract for 3-year periods



Multi-Tier Model, Enabling Spectrum Sharing Across Incumbent, Licensed and Opportunistic Layers of Users



CBRS: Spectrum Sharing Use Cases







Strategies for Leveraging Unlicensed & Shared Spectrum with 5G



Bandwidth Augmentation, Offload, Private Networks



5G New Radio (NR) Designed for Spectrum Sharing

Designed from the Outset for Unlicensed & Shared Spectrum Operation





5G Radio – Optimizable for Different Bands, Deployments, Services

Flexible Numerology Enables Optimal Operation in Diverse Scenarios

Flexible, Dynamically Variable Physical Layer Configurations – Optimizable for Different Scenarios

Band-Optimized

- Optimizable for every band
- Simultaneous operation in multiple bands
- Aggregation across
 multiple bands
- Multiplexing across time, frequency

Deployment-Optimized

- Optimal indoor operation
- Optimal outdoor operation
- Short vs. long range

Service-Optimized

- Latency-critical
- High throughput
- Mission-critical / high reliability
- Can be multiplexed within one carrier

802.11ax & ay - WiFi's Own 5G...

Incorporates Cellular-Like Capabilities & Band Flexibility

- Offering Gigabit Bandwidths at least 4x current WiFi speeds
- Bandwidth usage efficiency larger # of simultaneous users, increased capacity
- Optimizable for multiple deployment types dense, outdoor, indoor
- Knobs for bandwidth management, QoS
- Multiple bands 2.4GHz, 5GHz, mmWave
- Mobility between bands, power management





Supporting an Increasingly Diverse Array of WiFi Use Cases



Single Family Home



Multi-Dwelling Unit



Community WiFi & Neutral Host



Enterprise



Venue



Coexistence Challenge in Unlicensed & Shared Bands

Diverse Technologies Sharing the Same Bands



Longer-range, highspeed, mobility Medium-range, high-speed, indoor



Short-range, batteryoperated, powersensitive, low-speed





Creates Congestion & Interference – Compromising Performance

- Dense Deployments large numbers of devices, access points contending for bandwidth
- Multiple technologies coexisting
- Multiple service providers
- Resulting congestion, interference issues affect performance – latency, throughput, QoS





Solutions Must Address the Problem at Two Levels





Fontech's Suite of Unlicensed Spectrum Solutions

The path from best effort to carrier grade service



Best Effort



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Offer a fully integrated end-to-end network
 Enable adequate network management

Carrier grade WiFi pillars Provide consistent user experience