

# Mobile Networks

Mobile and cyber-physical systems

Federica Paganelli

## A NOTE ON THESE SLIDES

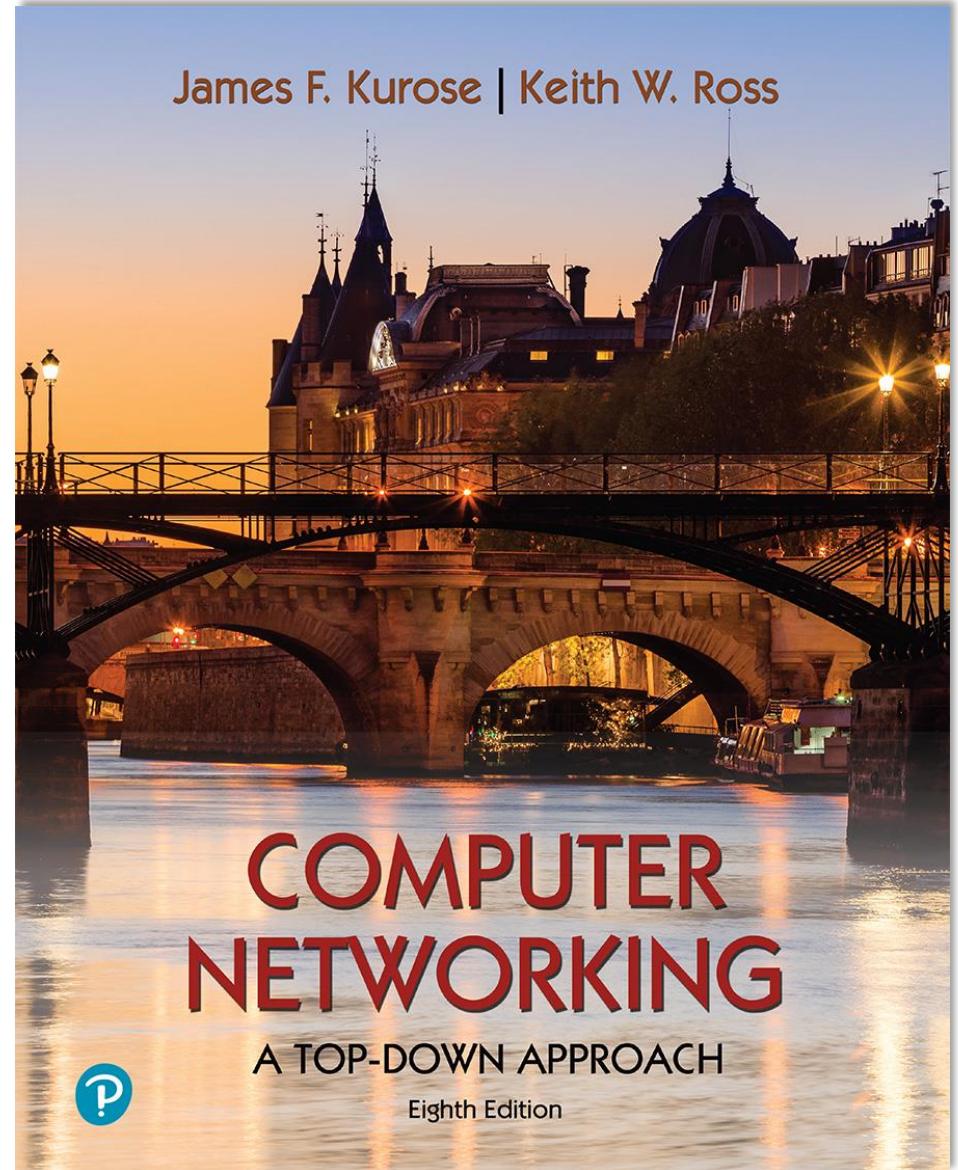
They are a (free) adaptation of the original slides provided with the book:

*Computer Networking: A Top-Down Approach*

8<sup>th</sup> edition, Jim Kurose, Keith Ross, Pearson, 2020

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# Wireless and Mobile Networks: context

- more wireless (mobile) phone subscribers than fixed (wired) phone subscribers (10-to-1 in 2019)!
- more mobile-broadband-connected devices than fixed-broadband-connected devices (5-1 in 2019)!
  - 4G/5G cellular networks now embracing Internet protocol stack, including SDN
- two important (but different) challenges
  - **wireless**: communication over wireless link
  - **mobility**: handling the mobile user who changes point of attachment to network

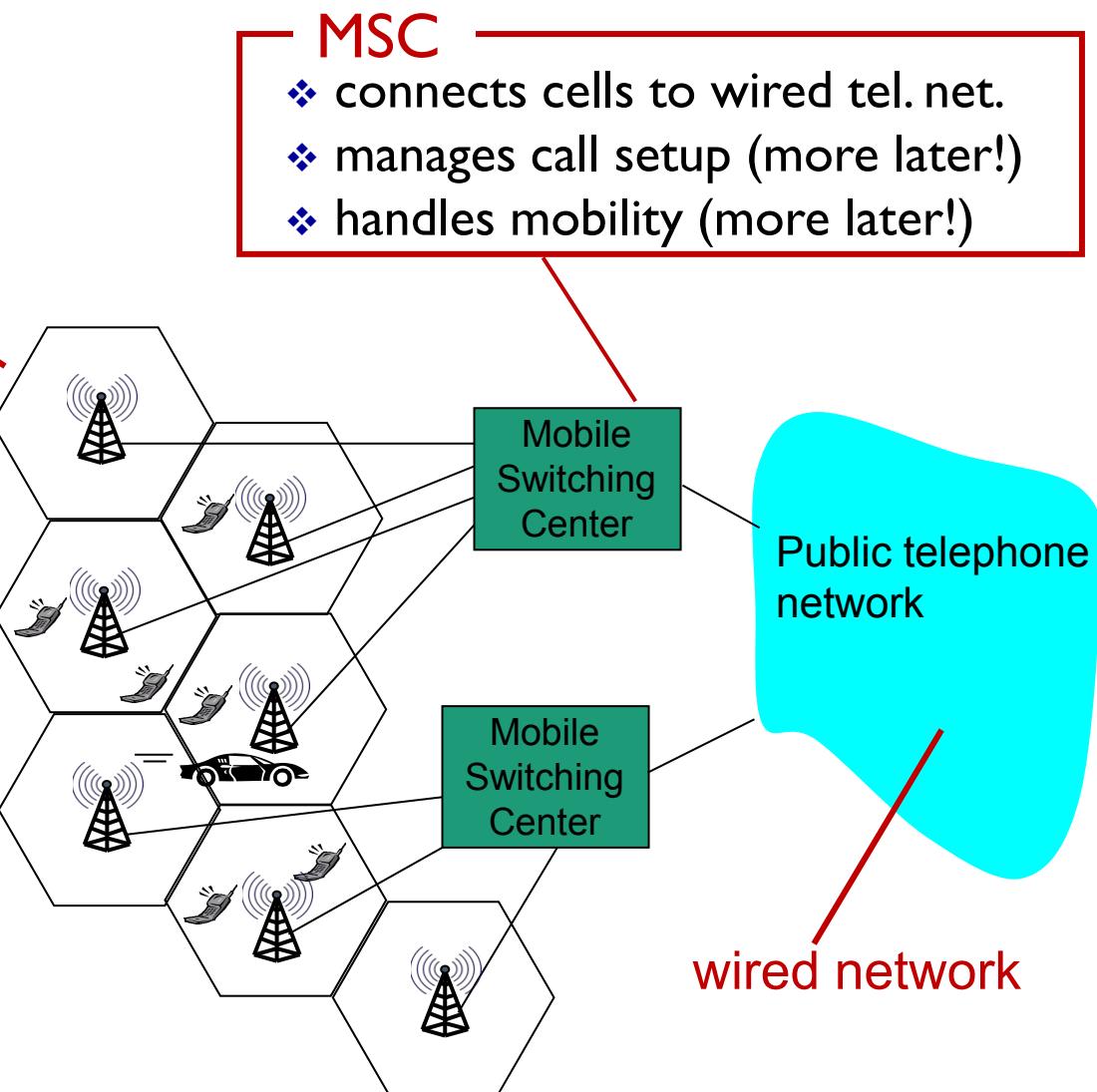
# Outline

- Cellular networks
  - Cellular network evolution (1G, 2G, 3G)
  - 4G and 5G networks
- Mobility
  - Mobility management: principles
  - Mobility management: practice
    - Mobility management in 4G/5G networks
    - Mobile IP
- Mobility: impact on higher-layer protocols

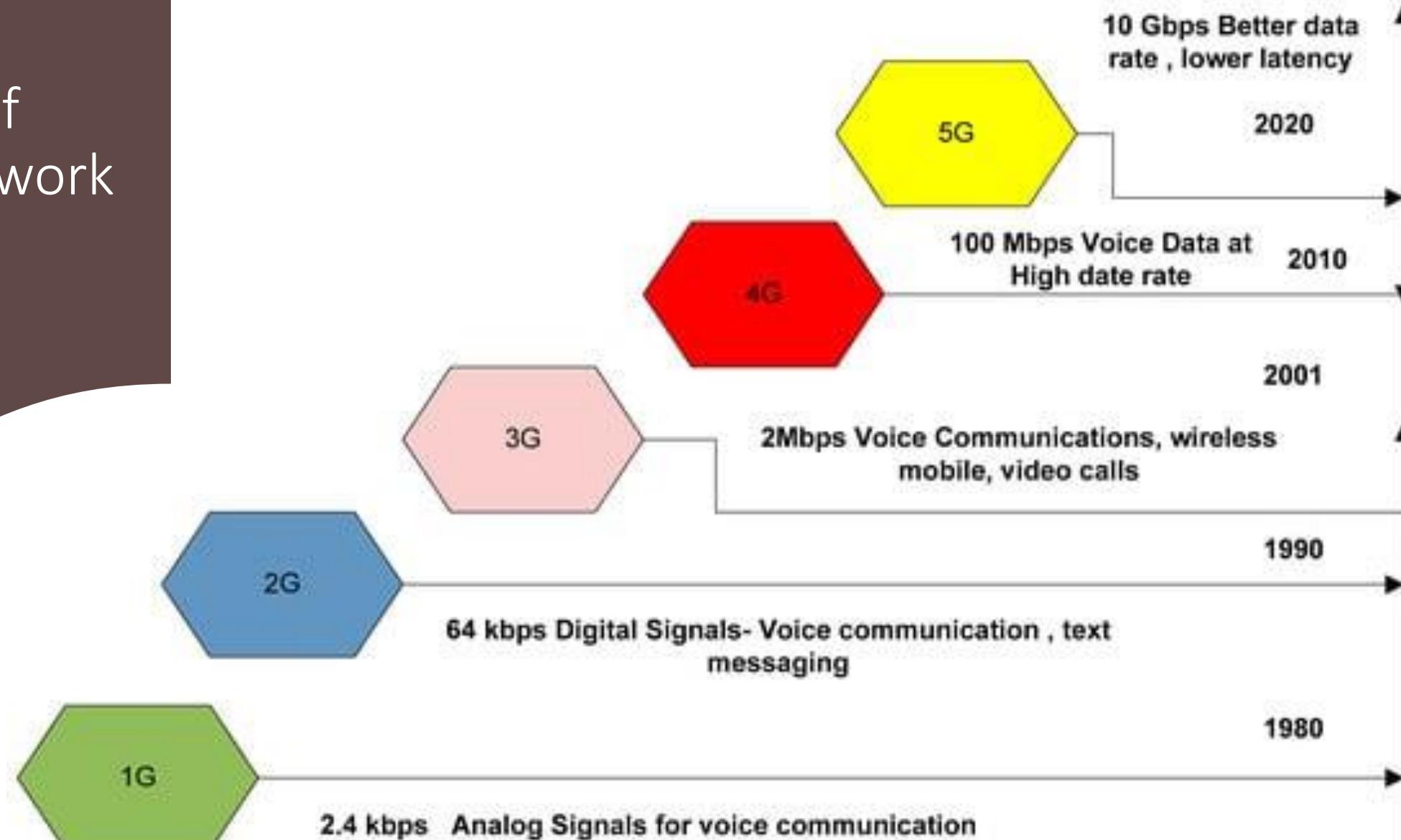
# Components of cellular network architecture

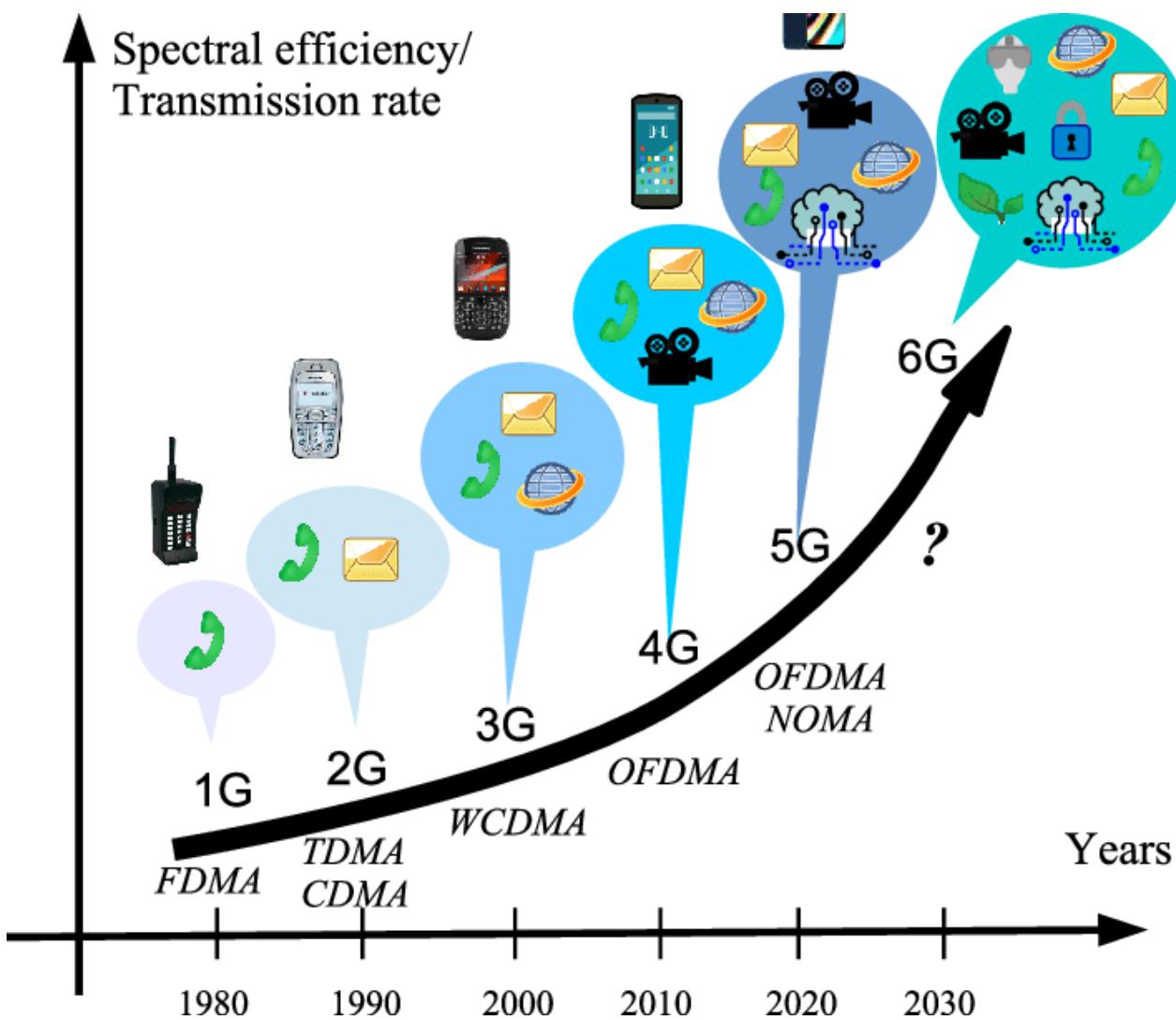
**cell**

- ❖ covers geographical region
- ❖ **base station (BS)** analogous to 802.11 AP
- ❖ **mobile users** attach to network through BS
- ❖ **air-interface:** physical and link layer protocol between mobile and BS



# Evolution of mobile network technology





# Evolution of mobile network technology

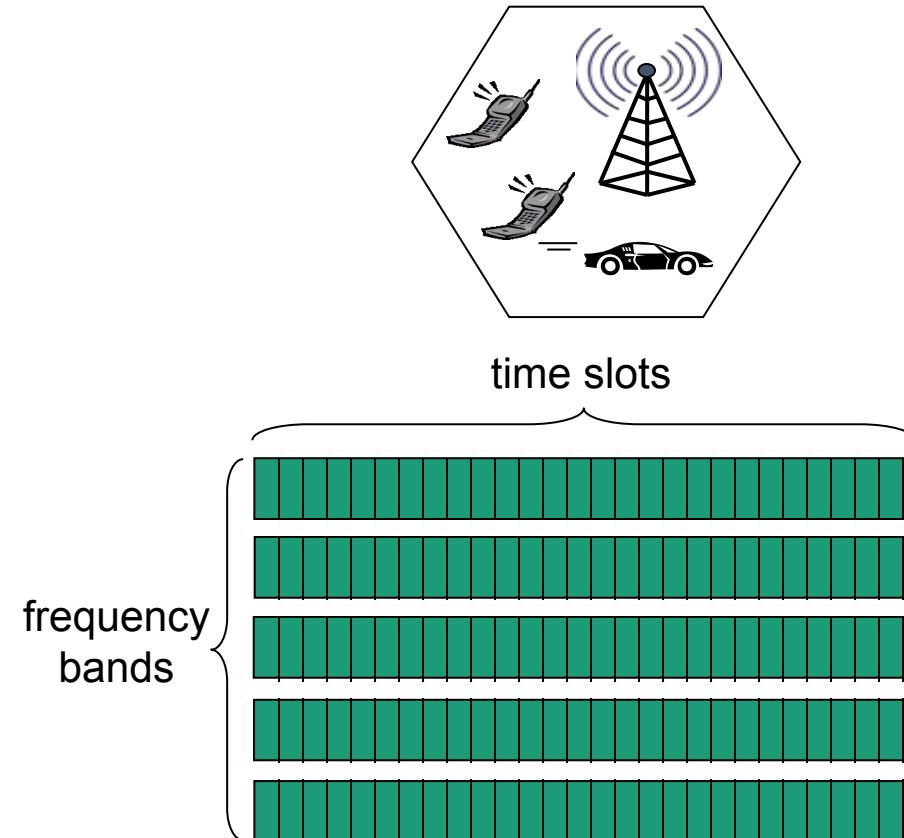
## Access techniques

Gutierrez, Carlos & Caicedo, Mauricio & Campos Delgado, Daniel Ulises. (2021). 5G and Beyond: Past, Present and Future of the Mobile Communications (English Version). IEEE Latin America Transactions. 19. 1702-1736.

# Cellular networks: the first hop

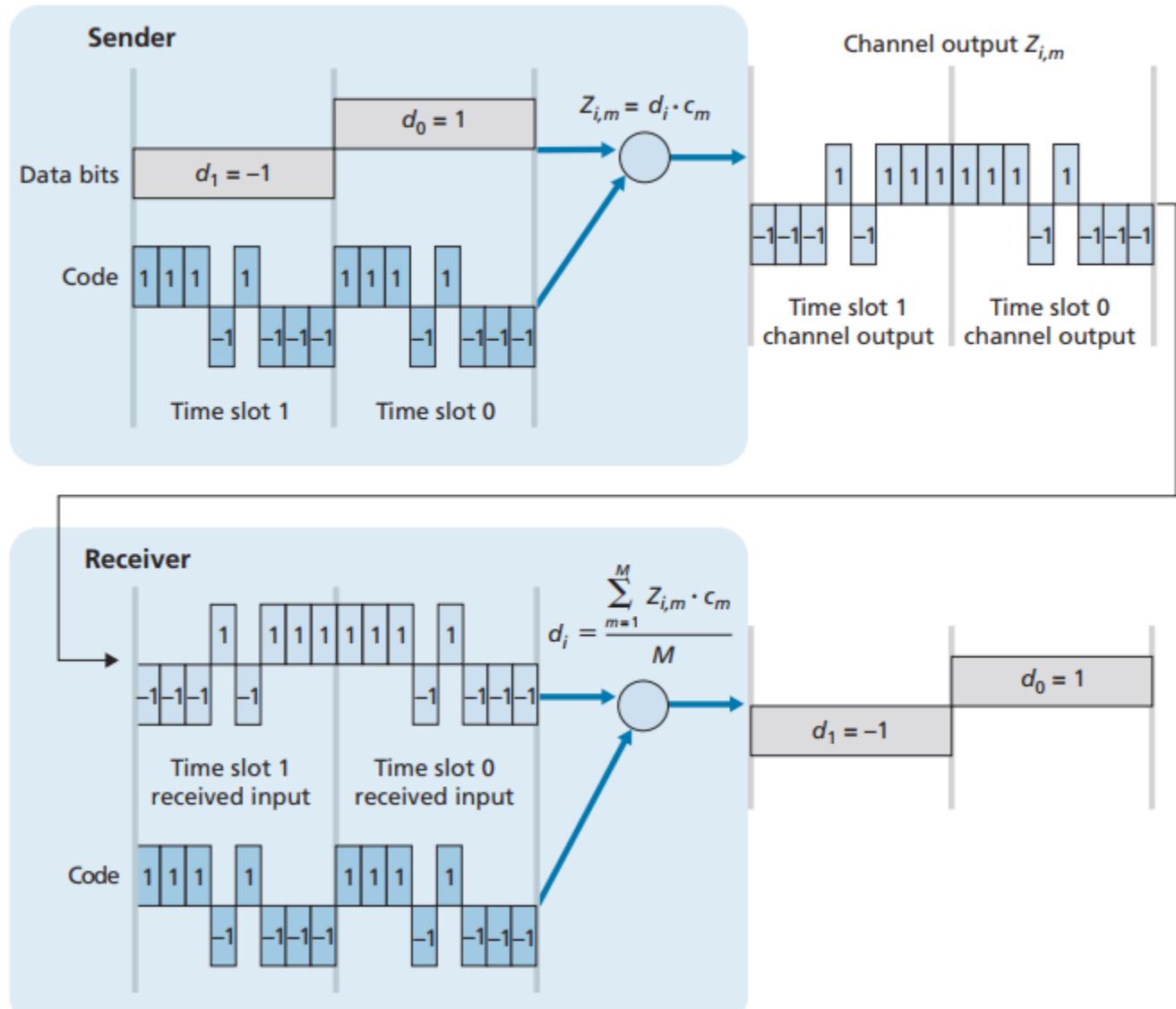
Two techniques for sharing mobile-to-BS radio spectrum

- combined FDMA/TDMA:  
divide spectrum in frequency channels, divide each channel into time slots
- CDMA: code division multiple access

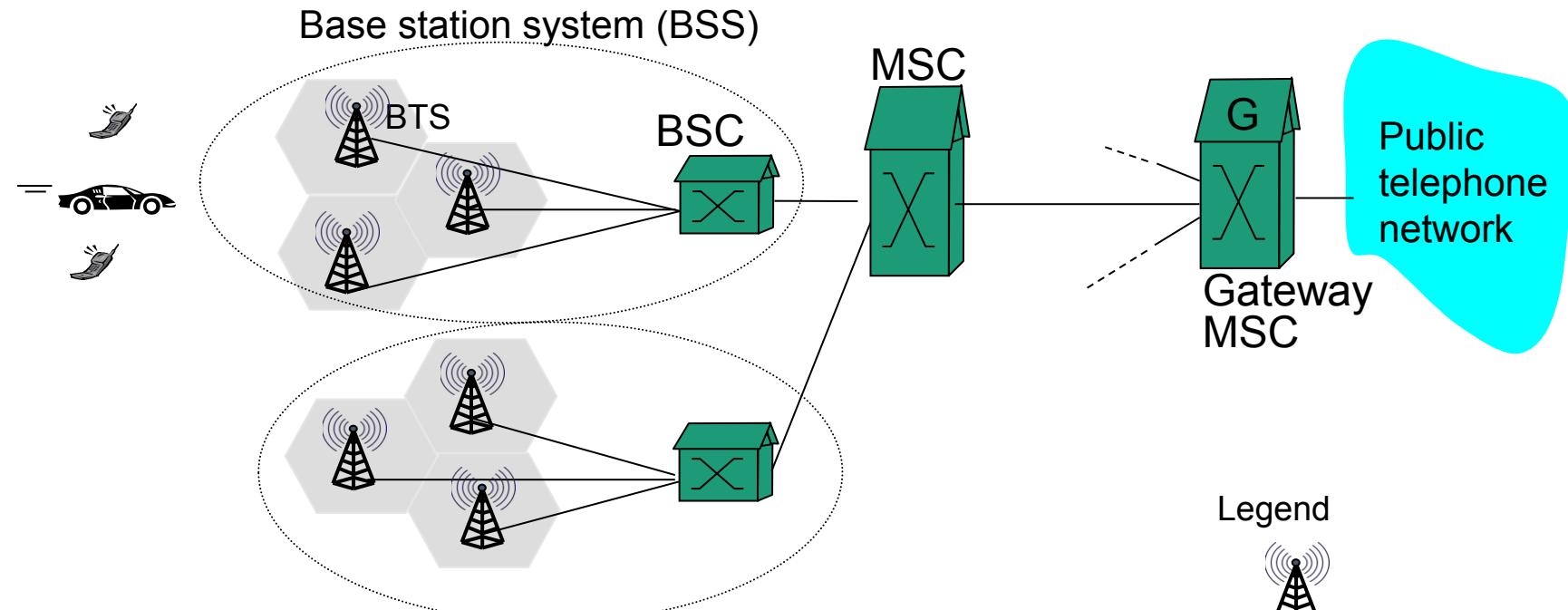


# Cellular networks: the first hop

- Two techniques for sharing mobile-to-BS radio spectrum
- combined FDMA/TDMA: divide spectrum in frequency channels, divide each channel into time slots
  - **CDMA: code division multiple access**
    - Partitioning the code space



# 2G (voice) network architecture



## GSM (global system for mobile communications)

- TDM+FDM: 200 Khz frequency band, each band supports 8 TDM calls

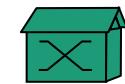
## 2.5G

- GPRS (2.5 G) General Packet Radio Service
  - Time slots dynamically reserved for data transfer(40-60 kbps)
- CDMA

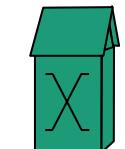
## Legend



Base transceiver station (BTS)



Base station controller (BSC)

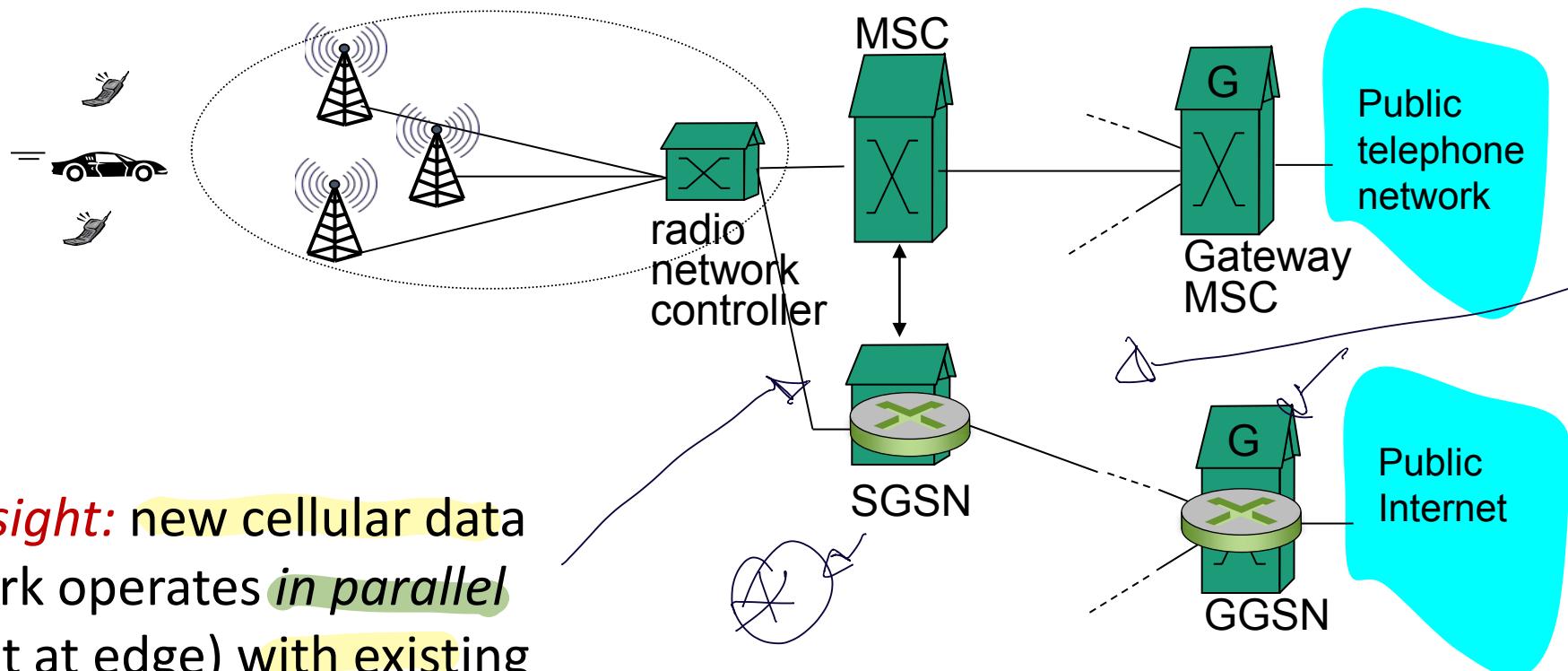


Mobile Switching Center (MSC)



Mobile subscribers

# 3G (voice+data) network architecture



**Key insight:** new cellular data network operates *in parallel* (except at edge) with existing cellular voice network

- voice network *unchanged* in core
  - Circuit switching
- data network operates *in parallel*
  - Packet switching



Serving GPRS Support Node (SGSN)



Gateway GPRS Support Node (GGSN)

input: more analog signals &  
on output: 1 simul  
(same channel)

realize  
MULTIPLEXING

using  
→ TDMA channels of GSM

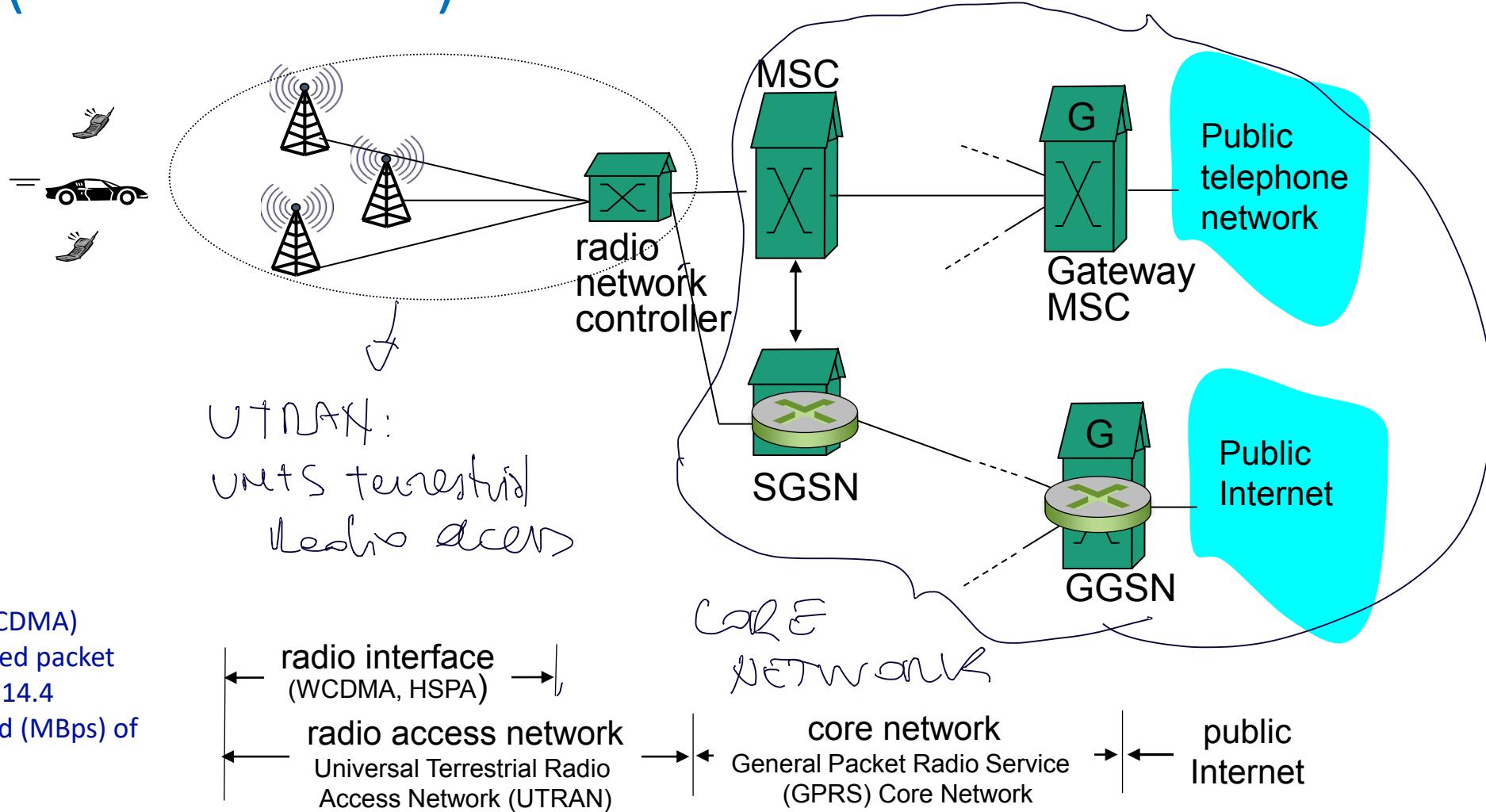
2G to 3G  
change an ch.  
introducing  
extending

GPRS:  
General  
Packet  
Radio ; realize

transfer of  
packets  
from telephone  
network to  
internet

# 3G (voice+data) network architecture

NEW



WCDMA (Wideband CDMA)  
HSPA: HSPA (high speed packet access): maximum of 14.4 megabytes per second (MBps) of throughput per cell

Example:  
UMTS

# 3G (voice+data) network architecture

$s(t)$  will be MODULATED  
and transmitted  
on the channel

$s(t)$ , multiplexing  
technique:

binary info • code  
(chip)

by 3G evolution  
of GSM

uses  
W-CDMA  
for transmission  
on access  
radio  
to the system

## • UTRAN (UMTS Terrestrial Radio Access Network)

BS  
+  
Radio  
Network  
Controller

- network and equipment that connects mobile handsets to the mobile network. It contains the base stations and the Radio Network Controllers (RNCs).
- Radio Network Controllers: manages and controls radio resources and acts as an access point between UTRAN and the Core Network
  - Load and congestion management in the cell
  - Admission control
  - Allocation of codes
- Base stations (Node B)
  - Participate in radio resource management
  - Channel coding
  - Rate adaptation

# 3G (voice+data) network architecture

NEW

- **Core Network**

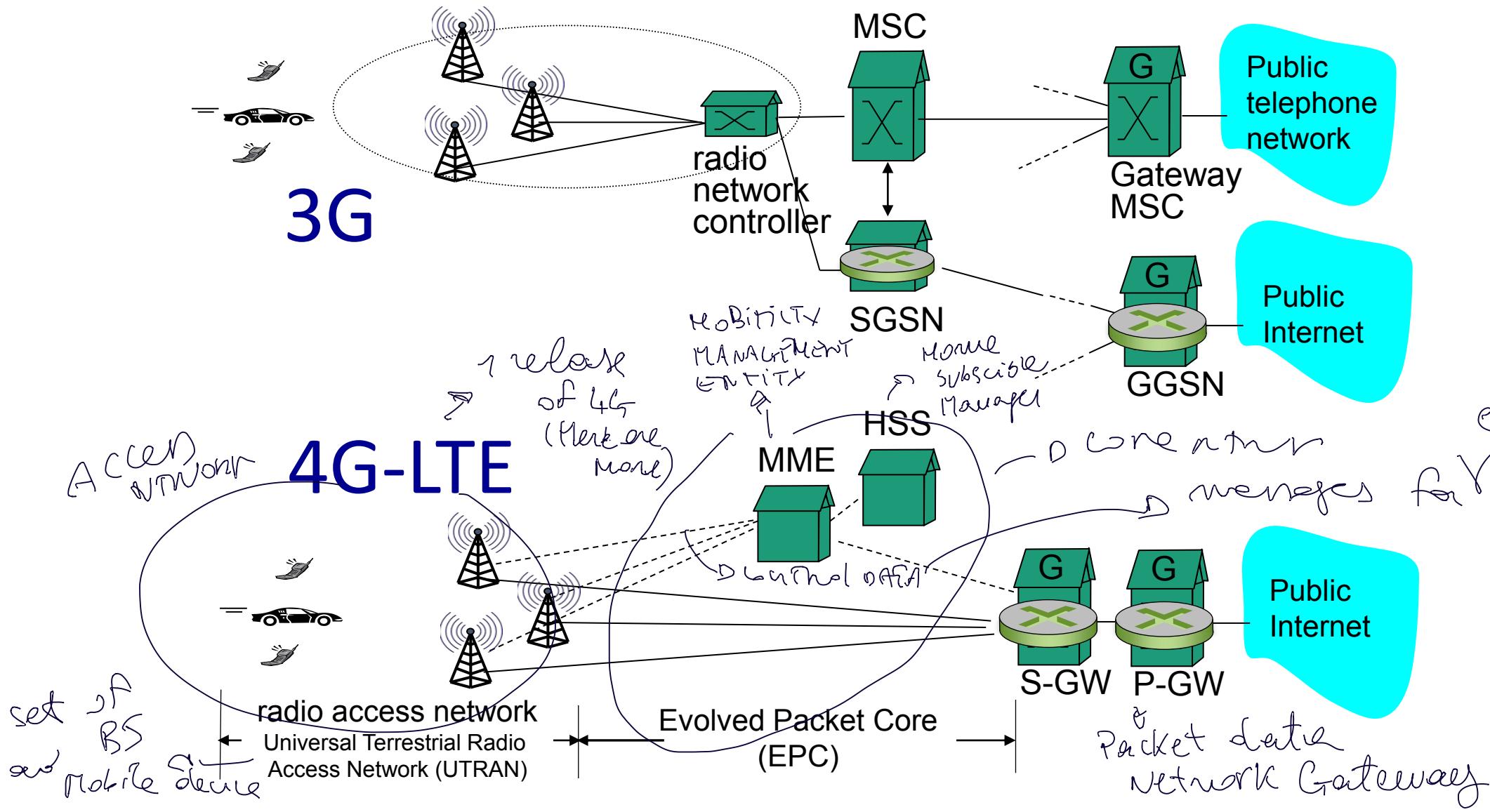
- **Mobile Switching Center: MSC**

- manages call setup
    - handles mobility
    - connects to public wired telephone network

- **Serving GPRS Support Node (SGSN) and Gateway GPRS Support Nodes**

- **Serving GPRS Support Node (SGSN)**: delivery of data packets from and to the mobile stations within its geographical service area
    - **GGSN**: inter-networking between the GPRS network and external packet data networks

# 3G versus 4G LTE network architecture



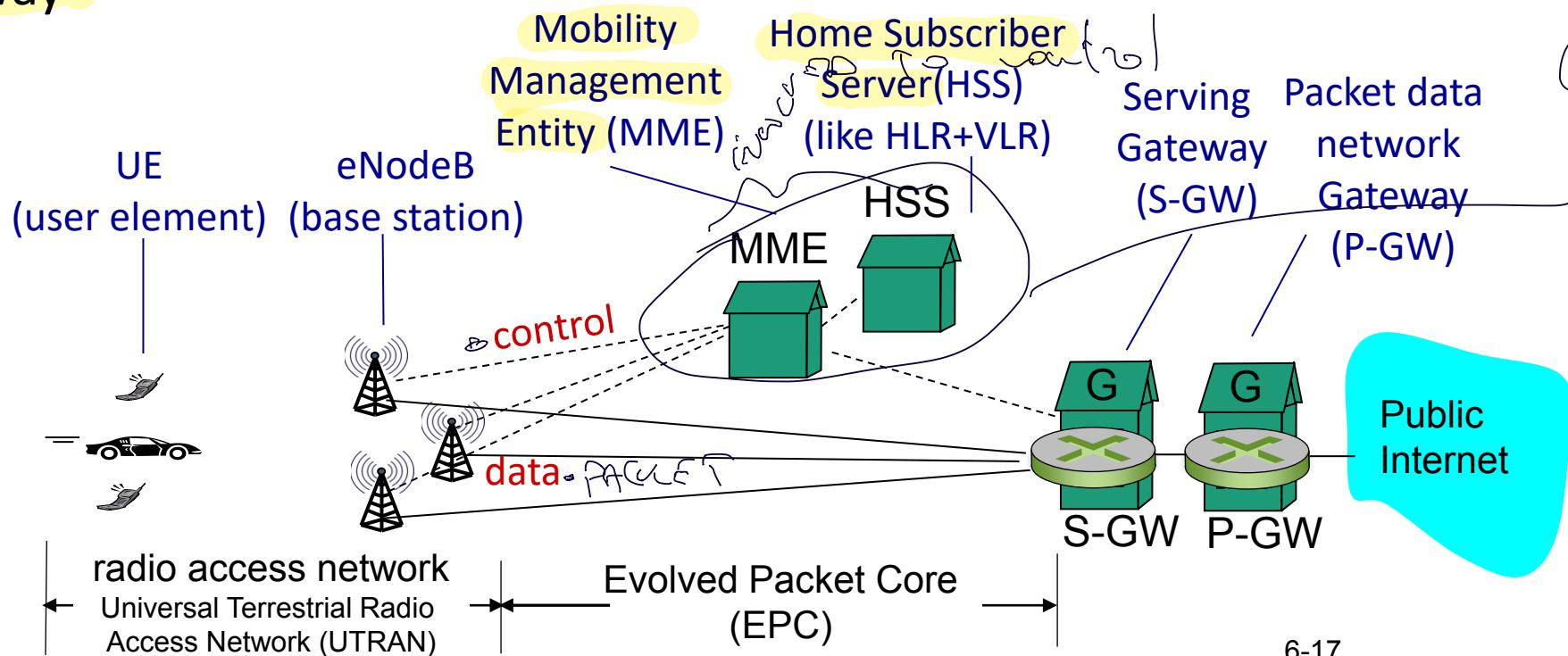
# 4G: main differences from 3G

Turning point 3G-4G  
→ cut but  
Packet switching

⇒ Using IP  
by core  
also for  
voice  
call

(BEFORE TURNING POINT)  
PACKET  
VS  
VOICE  
SERVICES

- **All-IP core**: IP packets tunneled (through core IP network) from base station to gateway
- **no separation between voice and data** – all traffic carried over IP core to gateway



# 4G/5G cellular networks

1  
monitored IP PACKET

- the solution for wide-area mobile Internet
- widespread deployment/use
- transmission rates up to 100's Mbps
- technical standards: 3rd Generation Partnership Project (3GPP)
  - [www.3gpp.org](http://www.3gpp.org)
  - 4G: Long-Term Evolution (LTE) standard

# 4G/5G cellular networks

mobile/whd  $\Rightarrow$  IP to forward  
PACKETS

## similarities to wired Internet

- edge/core distinction, but both below to same carrier
- global cellular network: a network of networks
- widespread use of protocols we've studied: HTTP, DNS, TCP, UDP, IP, NAT, separation of data/control planes, SDN, Ethernet, tunneling
- interconnected to wired Internet

forward select, AUTH by operator

DCP separation  
moving in security

network of  
network operators  
agreements

DHCP: ass. may dynamically  
IP address

Who selects multiple MNs? SIM card  
in dev.  
ID of subscriber

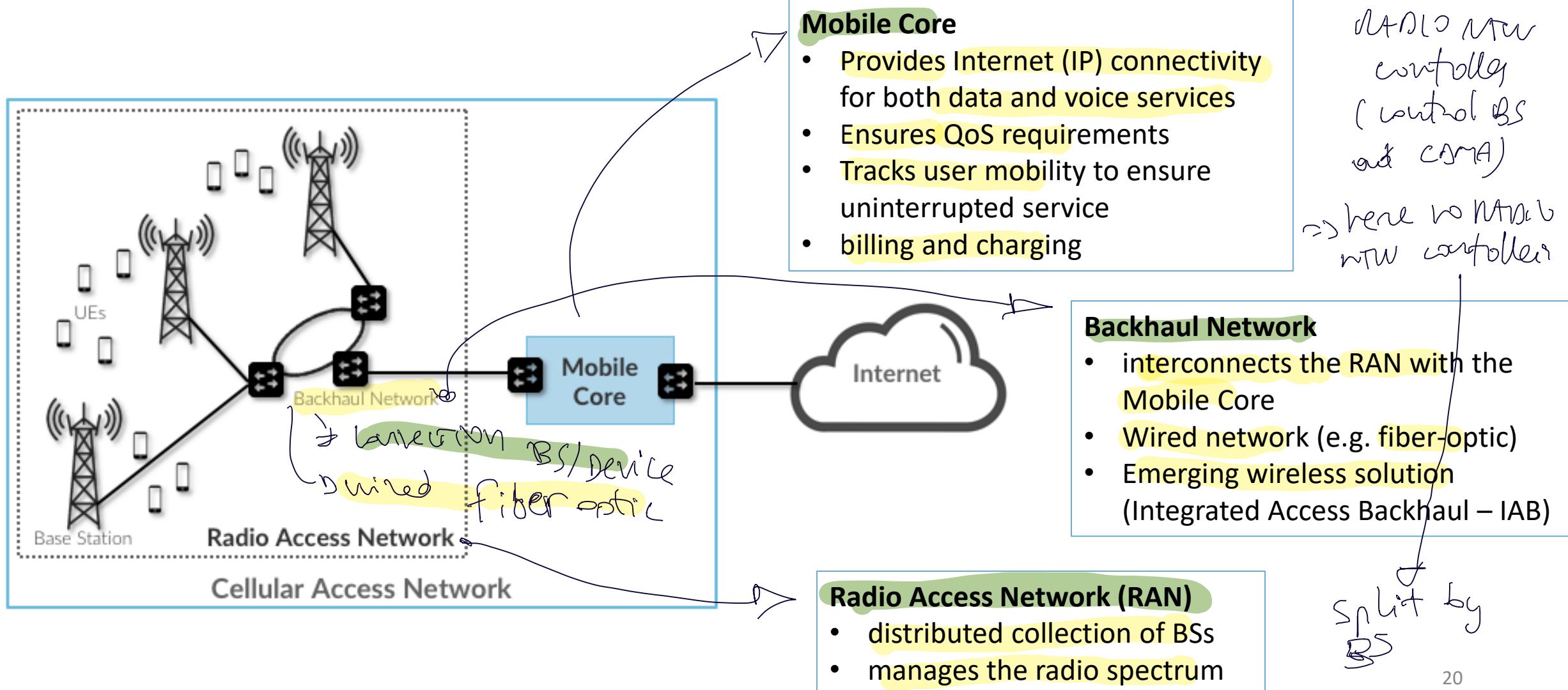
you access to  
all the  
servers and  
recognise  
to refine  
services  
charge operators

## differences from wired Internet

- different wireless link layer
- mobility as a 1<sup>st</sup> class service
- user "identity" (via SIM card)
- business model: users subscribe to a cellular provider
  - strong notion of "home network" versus roaming on visited nets
  - global access, with authentication infrastructure, and inter-carrier settlements

# in common operation with NADoN access mobile network

# 4G/5G cellular network architecture



- voice call or packet need  
A DATA PATH: gen<-->BS-service - hence setting up  
GSMW - THIS DATA  
PATH

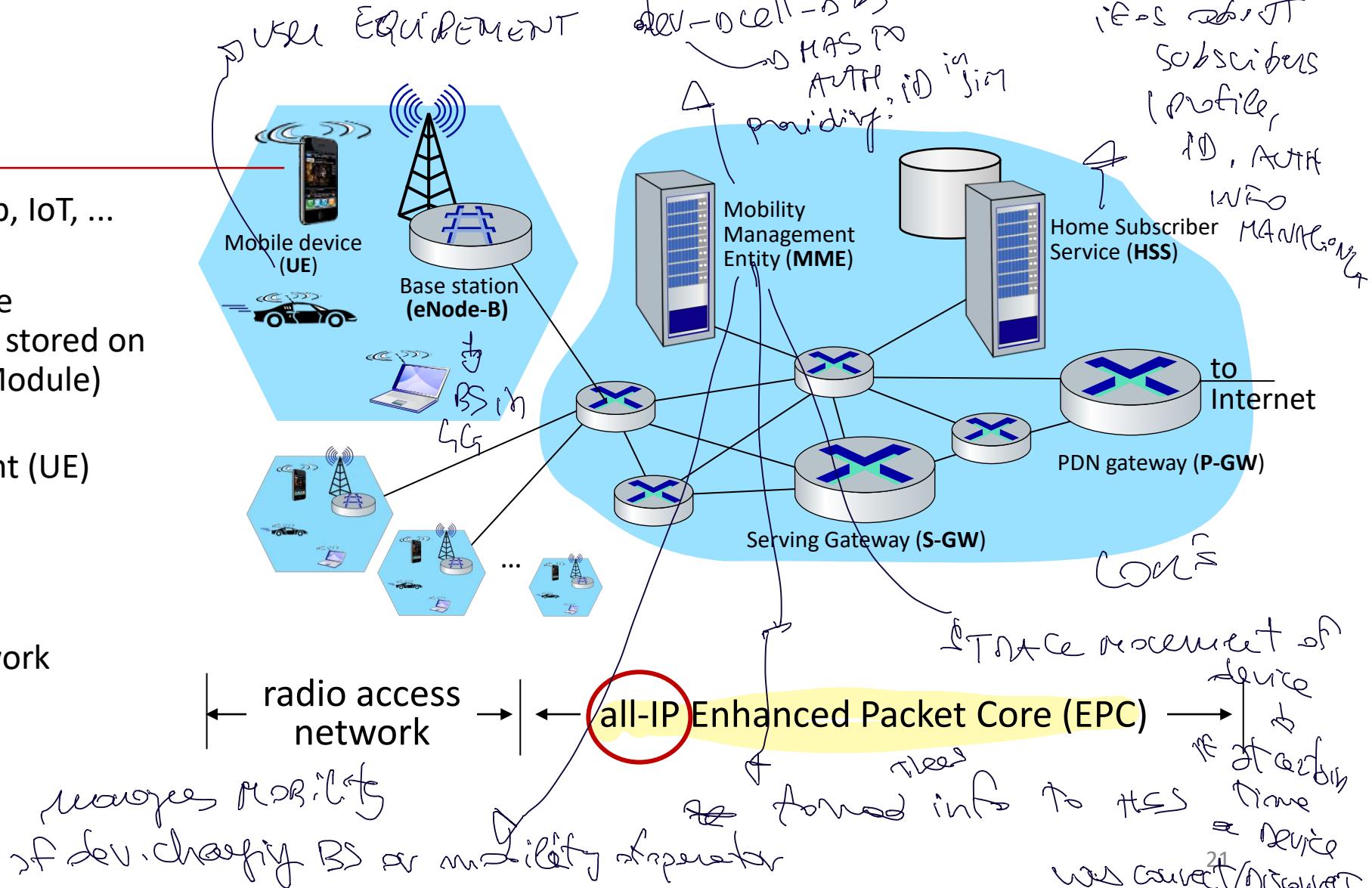
# Elements of 4G architecture

## Mobile device:

- smartphone, tablet, laptop, IoT, ... with 4G LTE radio
  - 64-bit International Mobile Subscriber Identity (IMSI), stored on SIM (Subscriber Identity Module) card
  - LTE jargon: User Equipment (UE)

## Base station:

- at “edge” of carrier’s network
  - LTE jargon: eNode-B

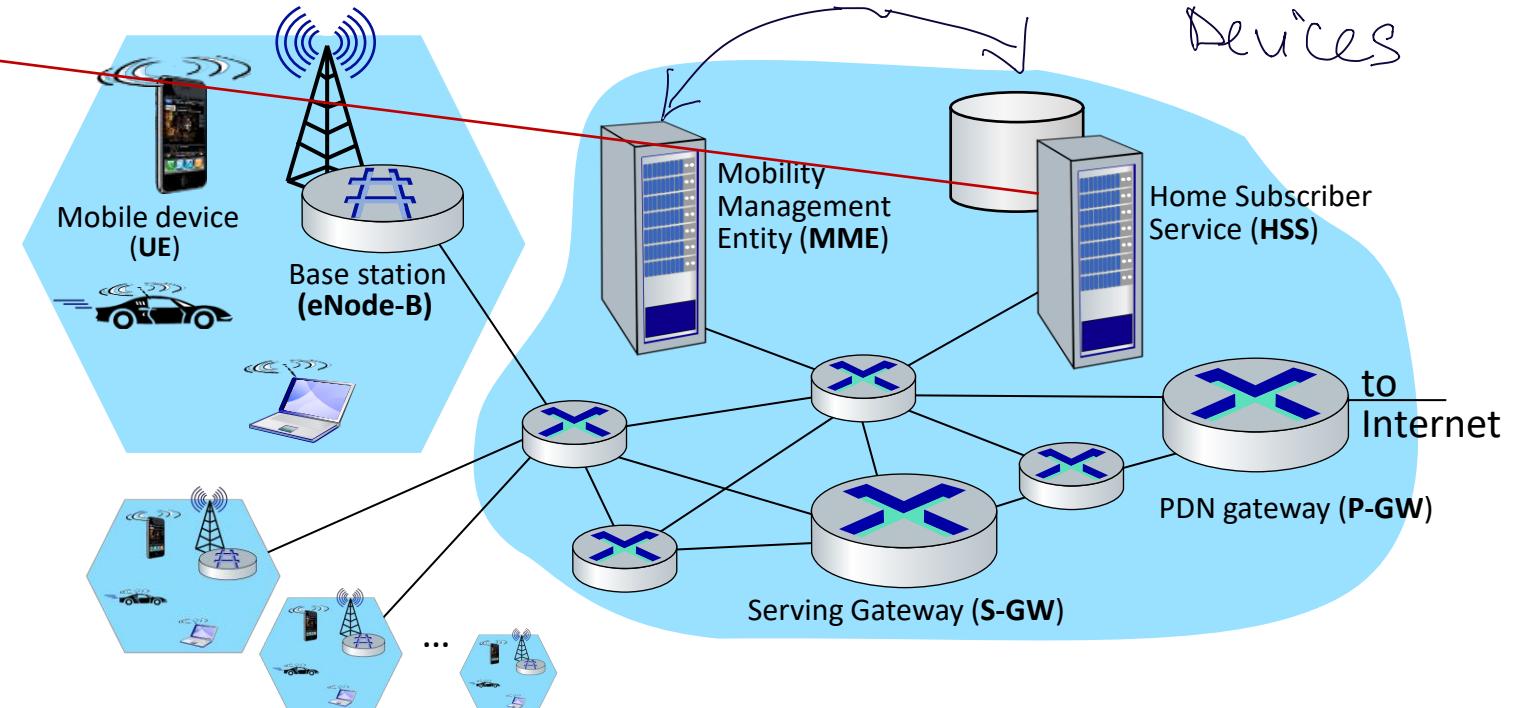


# Elements of 4G architecture

works together  
For authentication  
Devices

## Home Subscriber Service

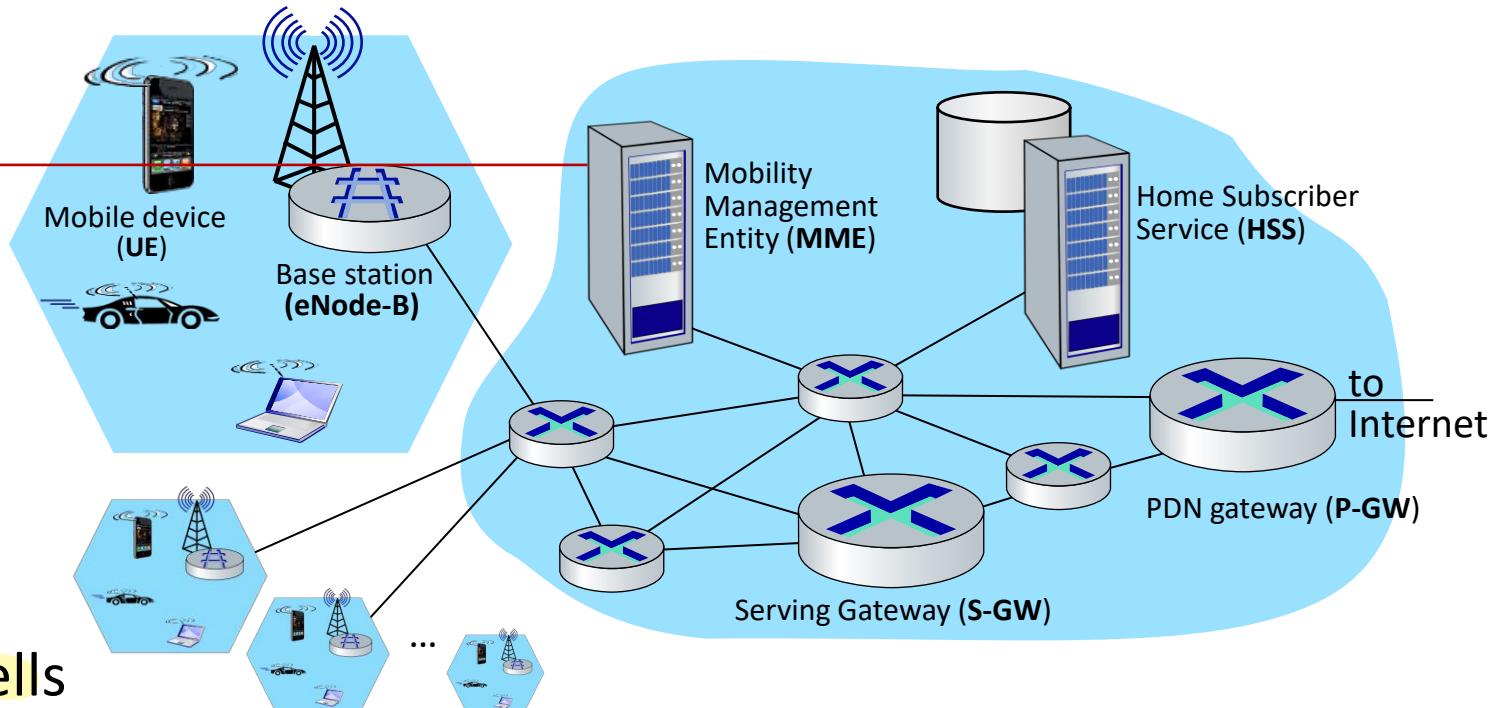
- 1) ▪ A database that contains all subscriber-related information
- 2) ▪ stores info about mobile devices for which the HSS's network is their "home network"
- 3) ▪ works with MME in device authentication



# Elements of 4G architecture

## Mobility Management Entity

- device authentication (device-to-network, network-to-device) coordinated with mobile home network HSS
- mobile device management:
  - device handover between cells
  - tracking/paging device location
- path (tunneling) setup from mobile device to P-GW

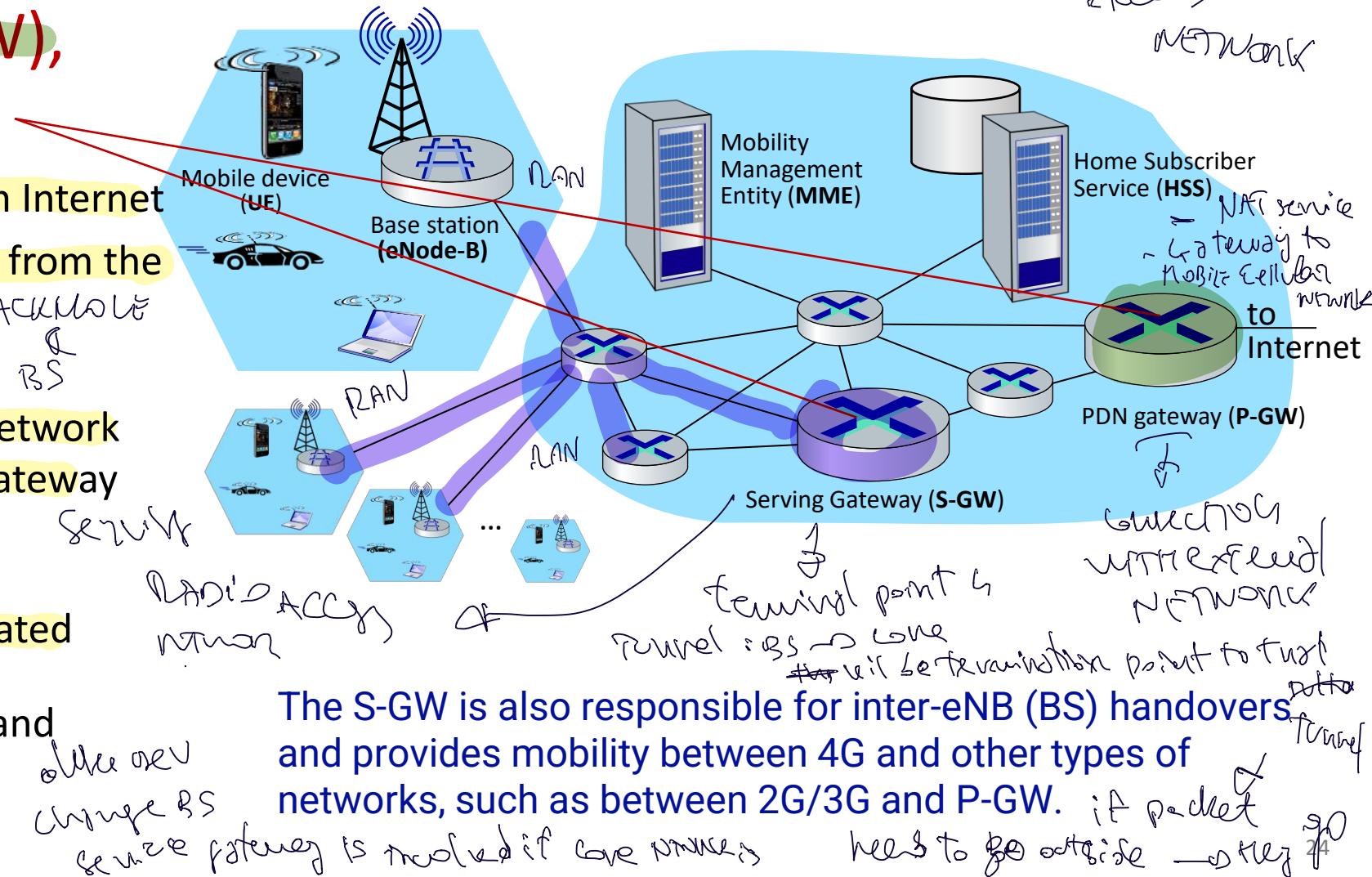


# Elements of 4G architecture

ts of 4G architecture

# Serving Gateway (S-GW), PDN Gateway (P-GW)

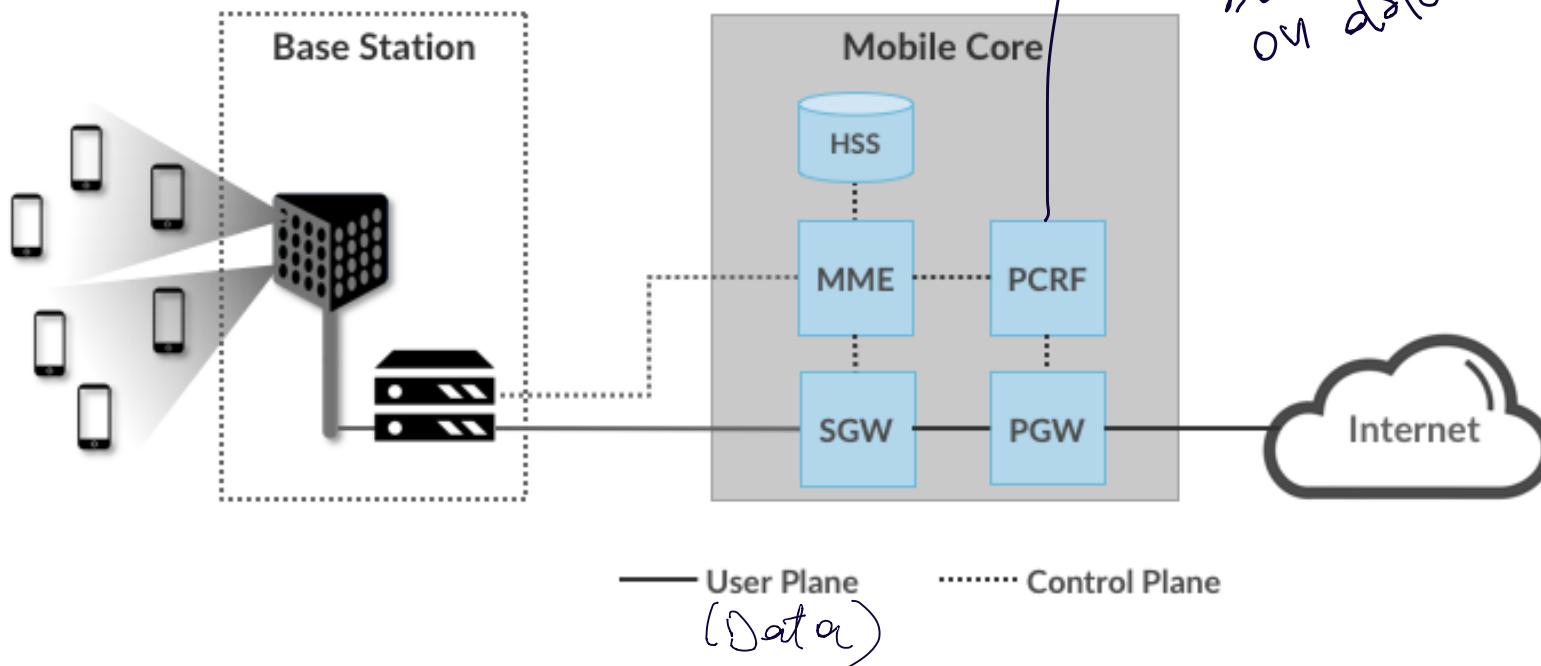
- on data path from mobile to/from Internet
  - S-GW: forwards IP packets to and from the RAN  
Radio Access Network; BACKHAUL  
BS
  - P-GW
    - a gateway to mobile cellular network
    - looks like any other internet gateway router
    - provides NAT services
    - supports additional access-related functions, including policy enforcement, traffic shaping, and charging.
  - other routers: forwarding packets



# 4G Architecture

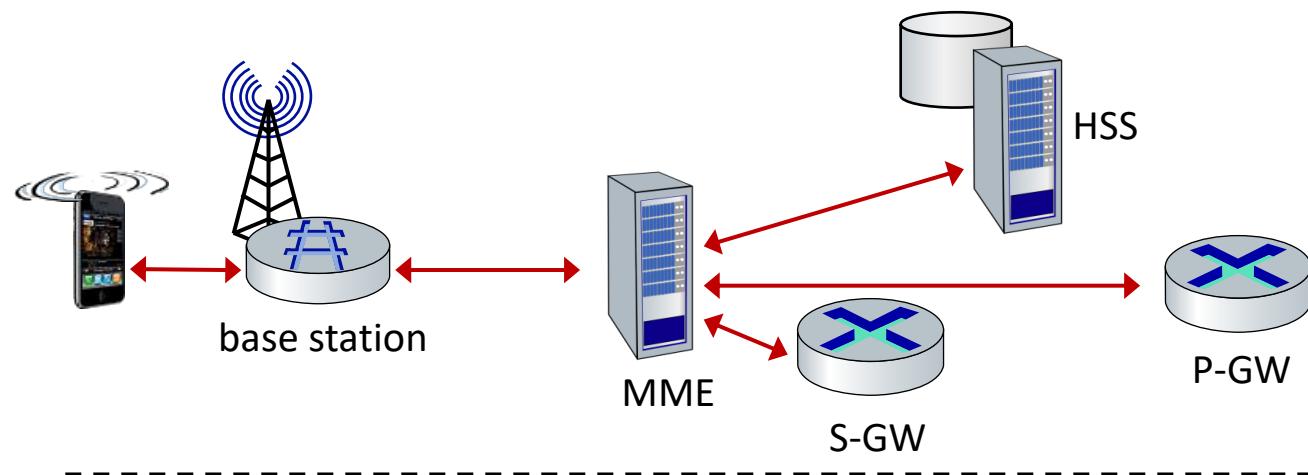
Cloud / virtualisation to have  
with degree of flexibility

- Mobile Core components can be flexibly deployed to serve a geographic area



- For example, a single MME/PGW pair might serve a metropolitan area, with SGWs deployed across ~10 edge sites spread throughout the city, each of which serves ~100 base stations
- alternative deployment configurations are allowed by the specifications (3GPP)

# 4G: data plane control plane separation



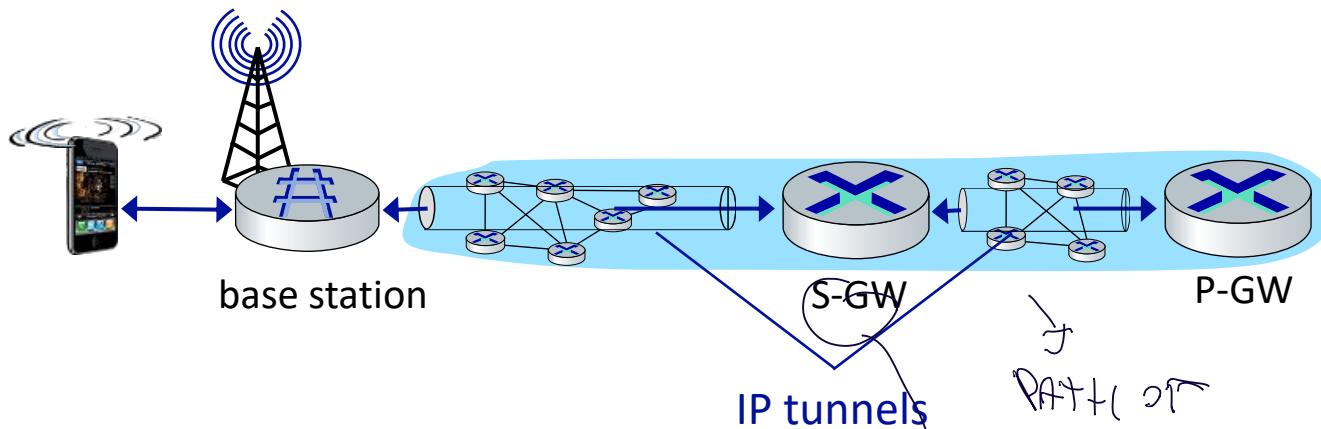
## control plane

- new protocols for mobility management (later), security, authentication

~~existing evolved~~

## data plane

- new protocols at link, physical layers
- extensive use of tunneling to facilitate mobility



Have you already heard about control and data plane separation? Where?

NETWORK LAYER SMTP

DATA PATH

PACKETS

SERVICE GATEWAY

cell → packets to nodes gather  
→ DATA PATH is setup 2 tunnel  
1 → BS → S-GW / → P-GW

# 4G: data plane / control plane separation

uses different protocol

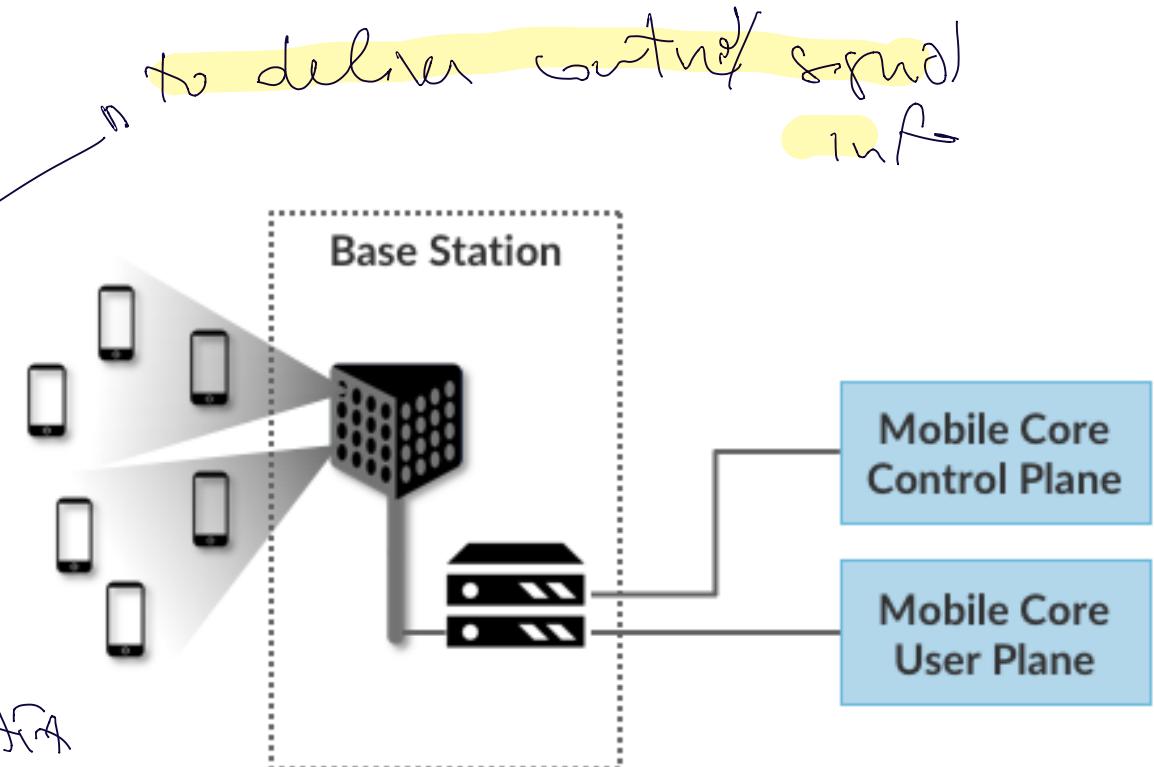
- The BS forwards both control and user plane packets between the Mobile Core and the UE.

- Control plane:** packets are tunneled over SCTP/IP

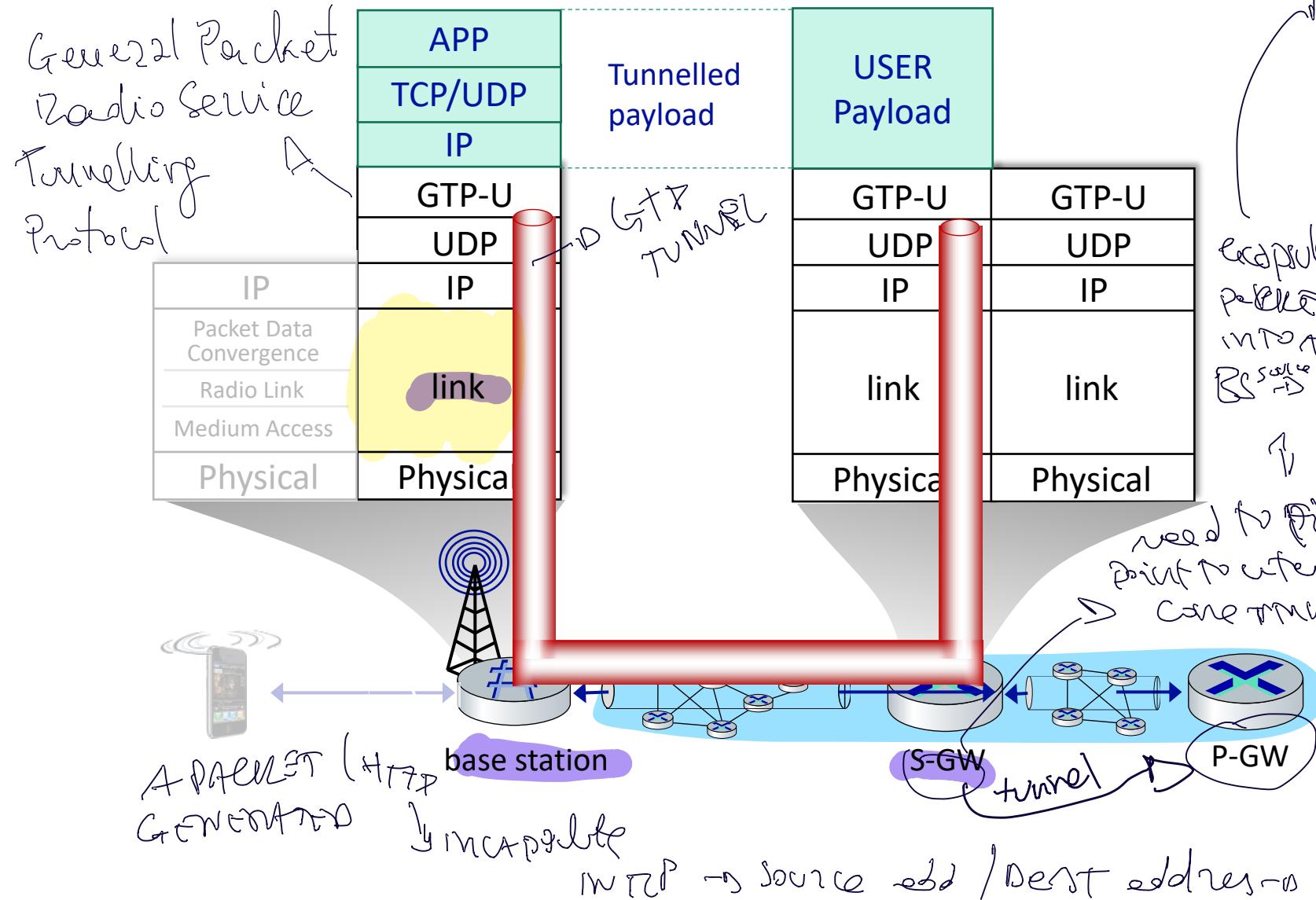
- SCTP (Stream Control Transport Protocol) is an alternative reliable transport to TCP, tailored to carry signaling (control) information for telephony services.
- UE authentication, registration, and mobility tracking

**User Plane:** packets are tunneled over GTP (General Packet Radio Service) Tunneling Protocol

- GTP is a 3GPP-specific tunneling protocol designed to run over UDP



# LTE data plane protocol stack: packet core



## tunneling:

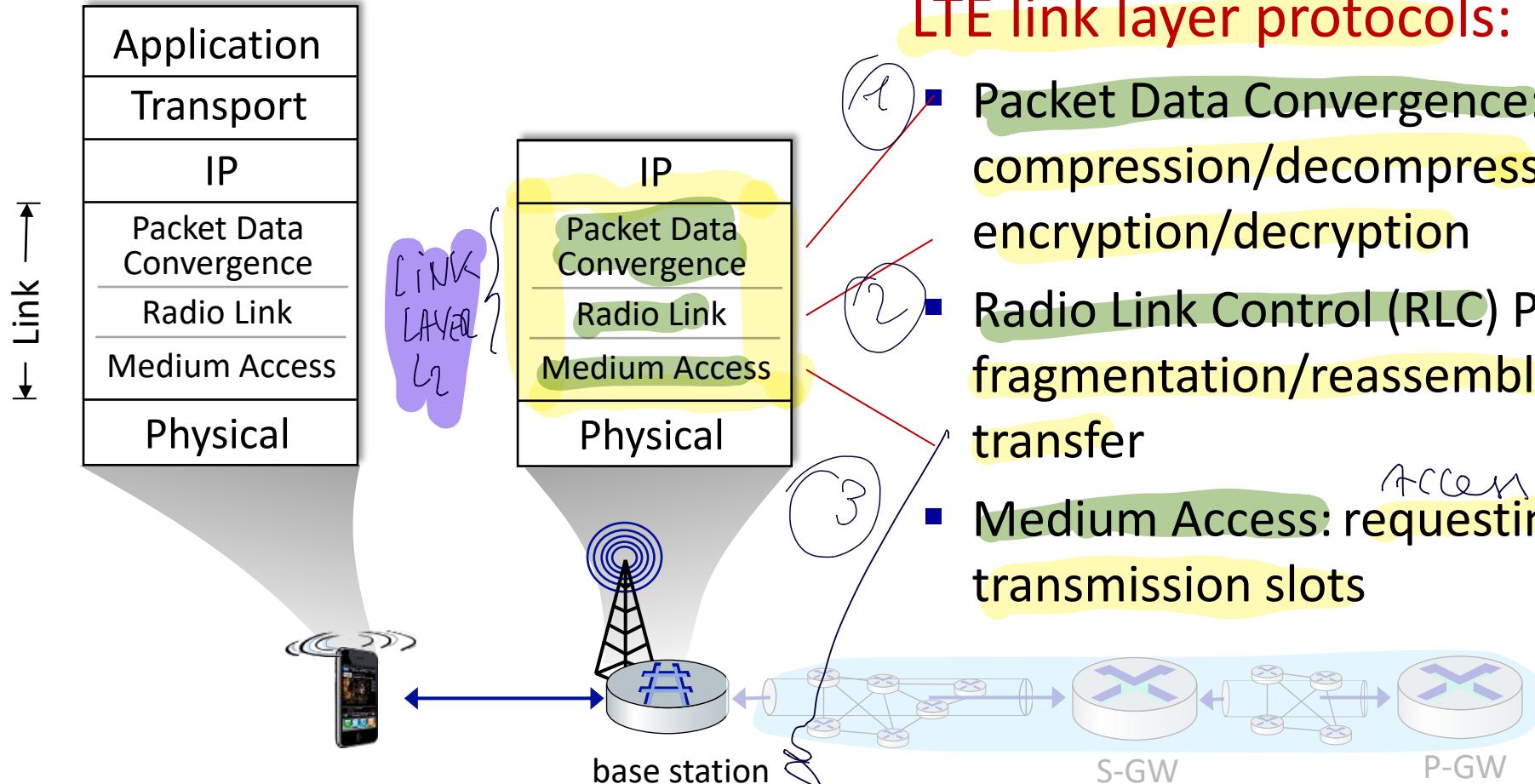
- mobile datagram encapsulated using GPRS Tunneling Protocol (GTP), sent inside UDP datagram to S-GW
- S-GW re-tunnels datagrams to P-GW
- supporting mobility: only tunneling endpoints change when mobile user moves

P-GW  
S-GW  
TUNNEL

~~GPRS~~  
~~WCDMA~~

S-GW will set another ADDRESS BS

# LTE data plane protocol stack: first hop



## LTE link layer protocols:

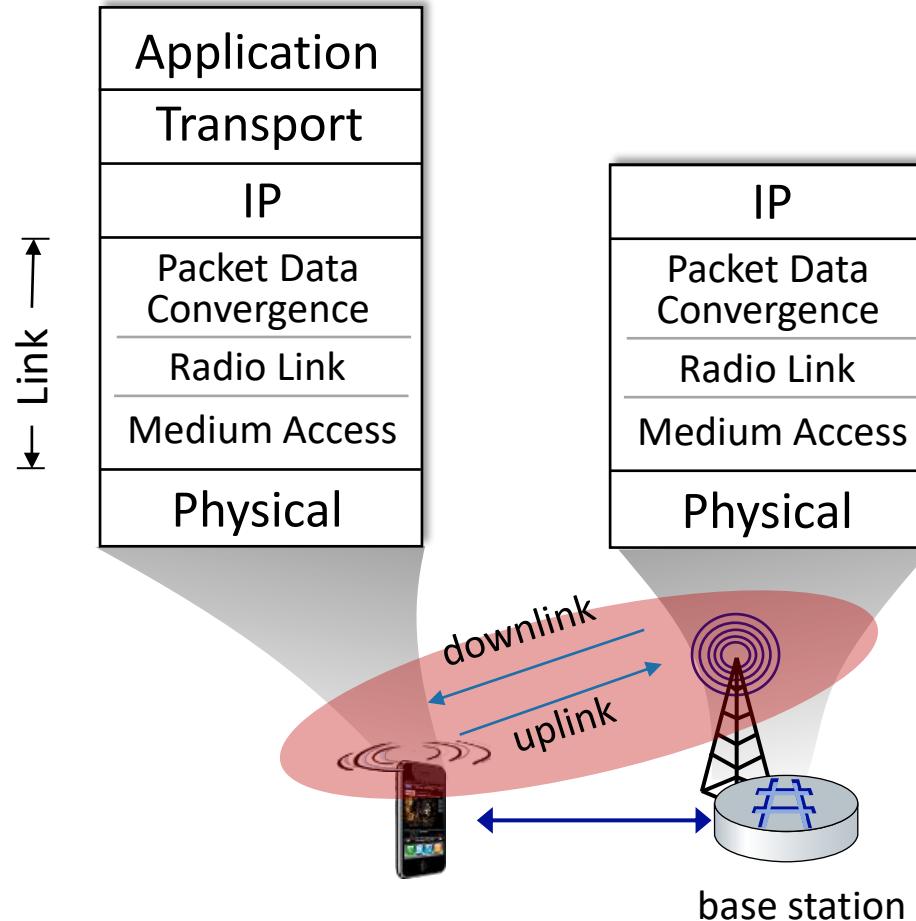
- ① ■ Packet Data Convergence: header compression/decompression, encryption/decryption
- ② ■ Radio Link Control (RLC) Protocol: fragmentation/reassembly, reliable data transfer
- ③ ■ Medium Access: requesting and use of radio transmission slots

initial exchange  
from physical to link layer  
may be encrypted

Provide network transparency

# LTE data plane protocol stack: first hop

frequency  
time division  
multiplexing



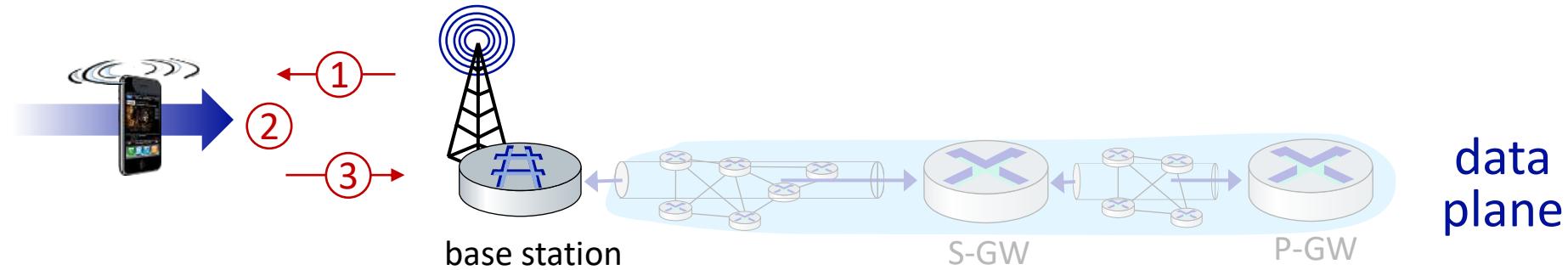
## LTE radio access network:

- **downstream channel:** combination of FDM and TDM within frequency channel (OFDM - orthogonal frequency division multiplexing)
  - “orthogonal”: minimal interference between channels
- **upstream:** FDM, TDM similar to OFDM
- each active mobile device allocated two or more 0.5 ms time slots in more channel frequencies
  - scheduling algorithm not standardized – up to operator
  - 100's Mbps per device possible

# LTE data plane: associating with a BS

How  
fish

Active!

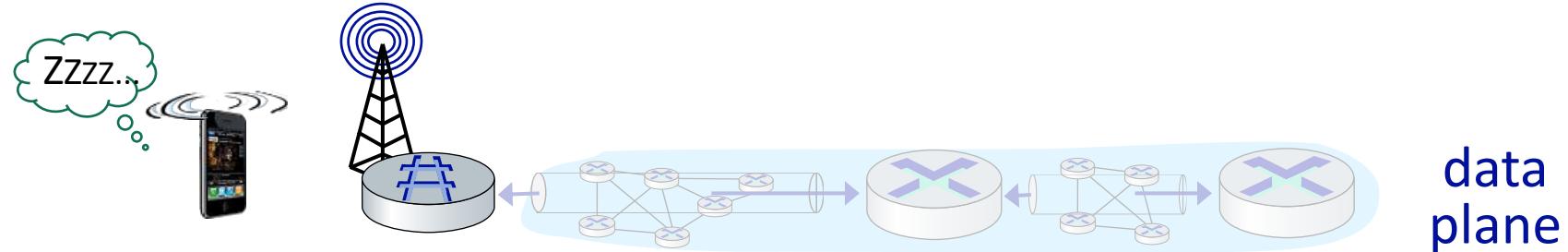


- ① **SYNCHRONIZING SIGNAL FROM BS**
  - BS broadcasts primary sync signal every 5 ms on all frequencies
    - BSs from multiple carriers may be broadcasting sync signals
      - on a given frequency, there are sync signals
- ② **mobile finds a primary sync signal, then locates 2<sup>nd</sup> sync signal on this freq.**
  - mobile then finds info broadcast by BS: channel bandwidth, configurations; BS's cellular carrier info
    - but then select 1, based on sync signal in many
  - mobile may get info from multiple base stations, multiple cellular networks
- ③ **mobile selects which BS to associate with (e.g., preference for home carrier)**
- ④ **more steps still needed to authenticate, establish state, set up control plane**

MUTUAL  
AUTH  
KEY MANAGEMENT SERVICE  
HOME SUBSCRIPTION

# LTE mobiles: sleep modes

Save energy  
of mobile  
device  
⇒ sleepy  
hub =



as in WiFi, Bluetooth: LTE mobile may put radio to “sleep” to conserve battery:

- light sleep: after 100's msec of inactivity
  - wake up periodically (100's msec) to check for downstream transmissions
- deep sleep: after 5-10 secs of inactivity
  - mobile may change cells while deep sleeping – need to re-establish association

very important  
(if there are transmission voice msg)

can also move, BS handover to save

mobile return service

# On to 5G!

- **goal:** 10x increase in peak bitrate, 10x decrease in latency, 100x increase in traffic capacity over 4G
- **5G NR (new radio):**
  - two frequency bands: FR1 (450 MHz–6 GHz) and FR2 (24 GHz–52 GHz): millimeter wave frequencies
  - not backwards-compatible with 4G
  - MIMO: multiple directional antennae
- **millimeter wave frequencies:** much higher data rates, but over shorter distances
  - pico-cells: cell diameters: 10-100 m
  - massive, dense deployment of new base stations required
    - *more BS needed in 5G*

*innovations: new NAS, b; new freq. range*

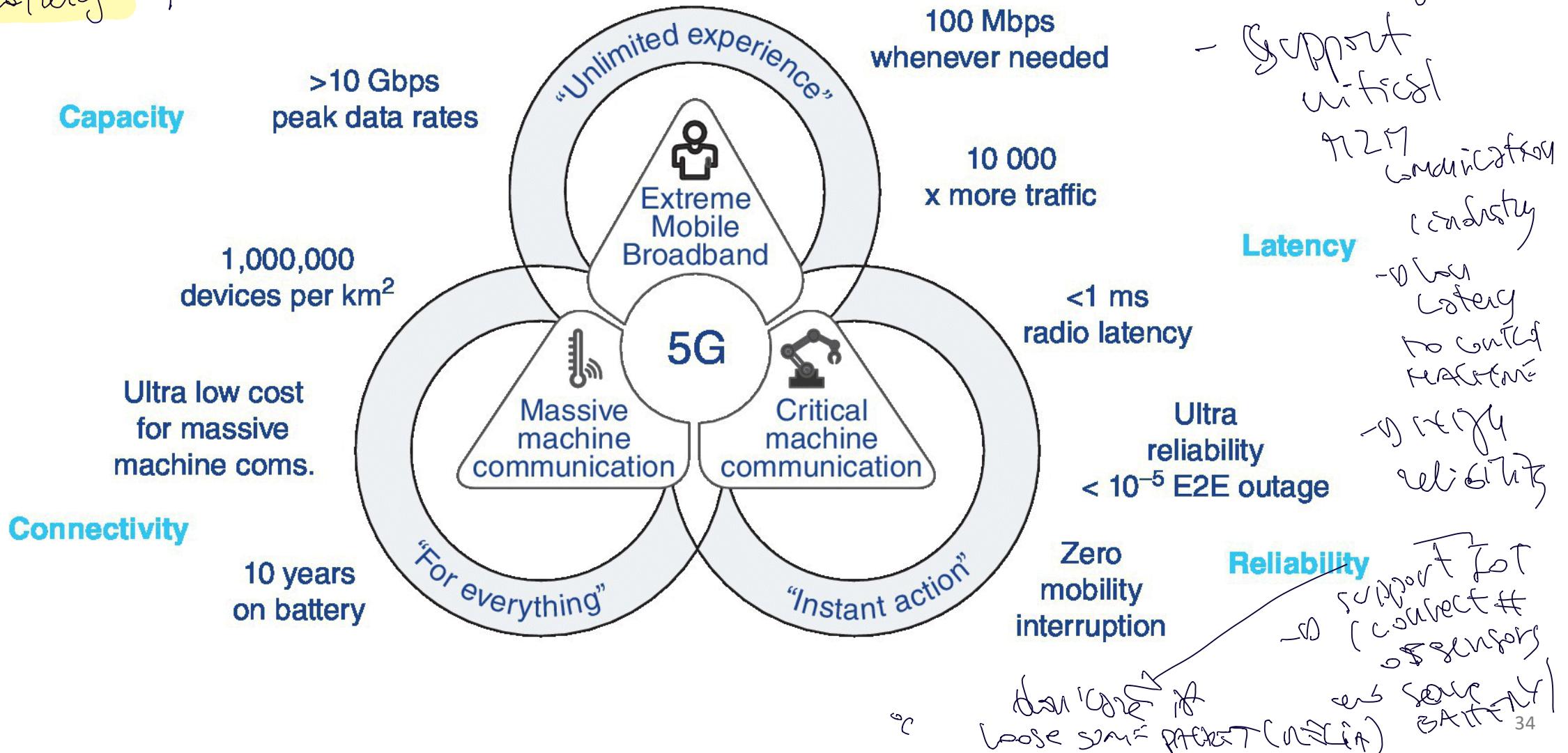
*multiple output (output)*

*smaller cells*

# 5G use cases

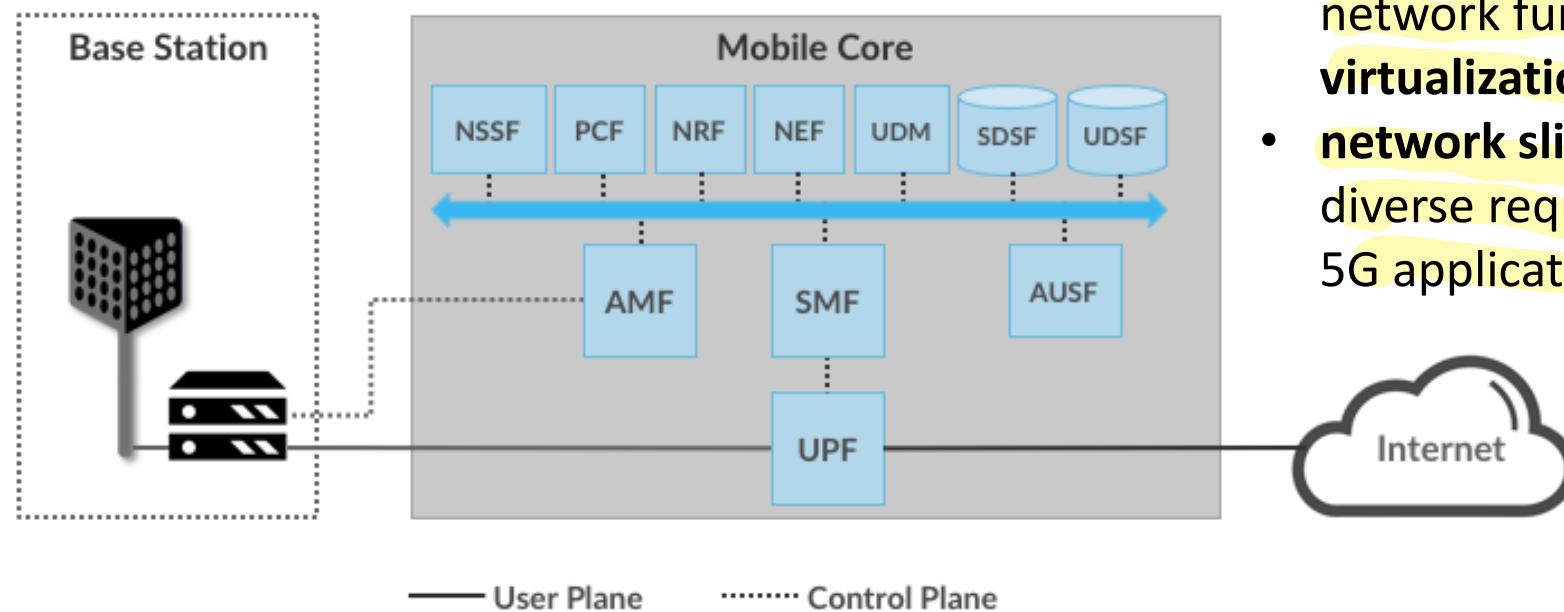
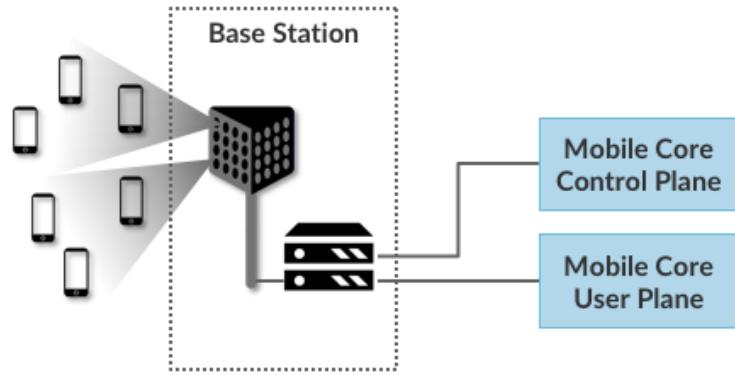
+ speed  
- latency

} to support many



# 5G Architecture

Auth Dev.  
Monitoring of Dev.



## The 5G Core network

- redesigned to better integrate with the Internet and cloud-based services
- Complete control and user plane separation
- distributed servers and caches across the network to reduce latency
- Consists of virtualized software network functions (**network function virtualization**)
- **network slicing** to flexibly meet the diverse requirements of the different 5G applications

next lectures

# 5G Architecture - User Plane

- Separation Control / DATA PLANE

## UPF (User Plane Function)

- fowards traffic between RAN and the Internet, corresponding to the S/PGW combination in EPC. It also is responsible for:
  - Packet inspection & application detection
  - QoS management
  - traffic usage reporting
- flexibility to deliver user plane functionality at the edge as well as the network core.
  - UPF can be co-located with edge and central data centers at both locations
  - Multi-Access Edge Computing (MEC)

SIMBUT  
MANAGED  
IN THE MANAGED EDGE

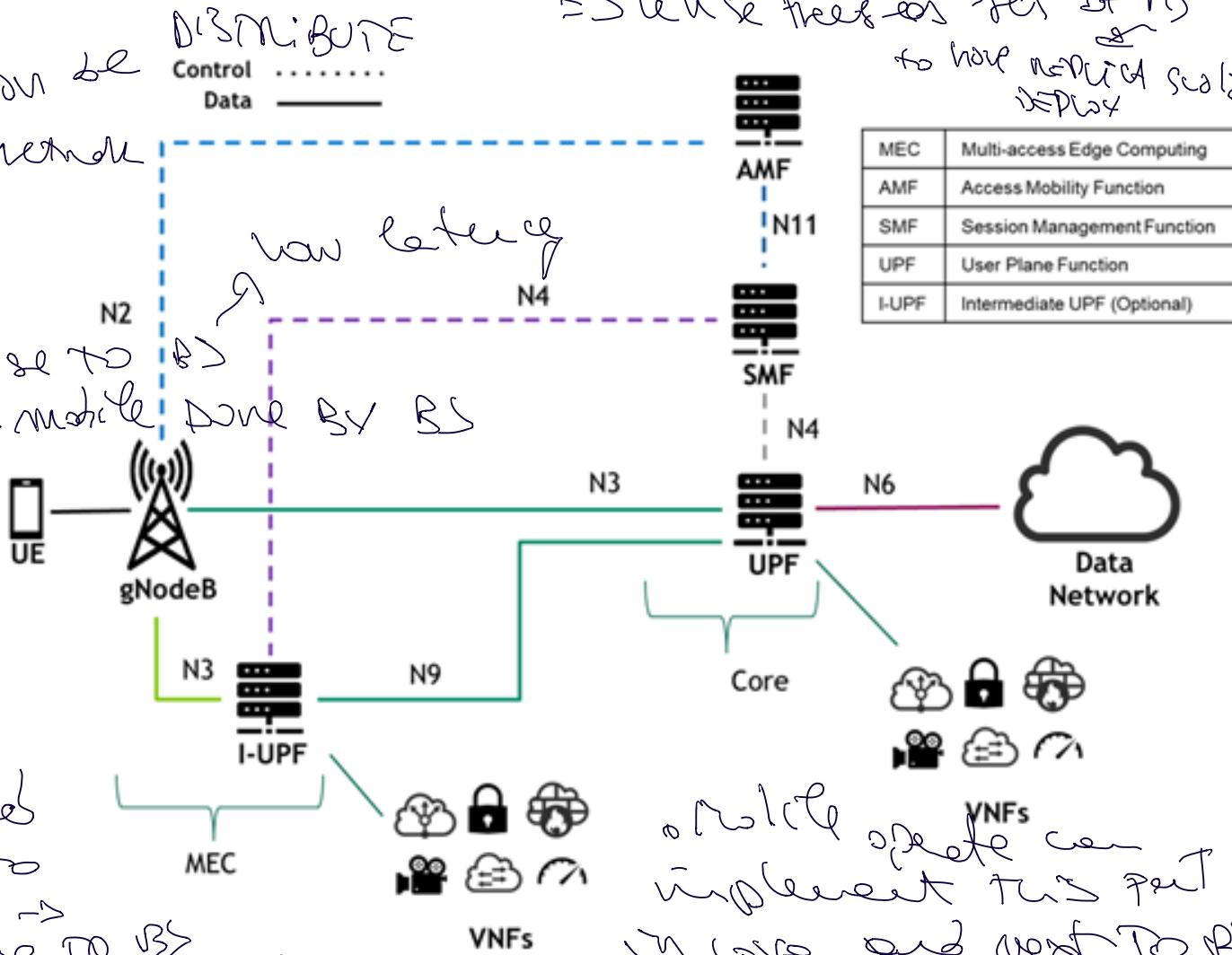
next lectures

short

PATH

→ lower latency

if needed  
functions to  
analyze data →  
put add close to BS  
as UPF



→ want further like mirrors  
→ packet in port  
→ loss of resource  
→ uplink of set of MS  
to have reduced scalability  
DEPLOY

MEC	Multi-access Edge Computing
AMF	Access Mobility Function
SMF	Session Management Function
UPF	User Plane Function
I-UPF	Intermediate UPF (Optional)



Data Network



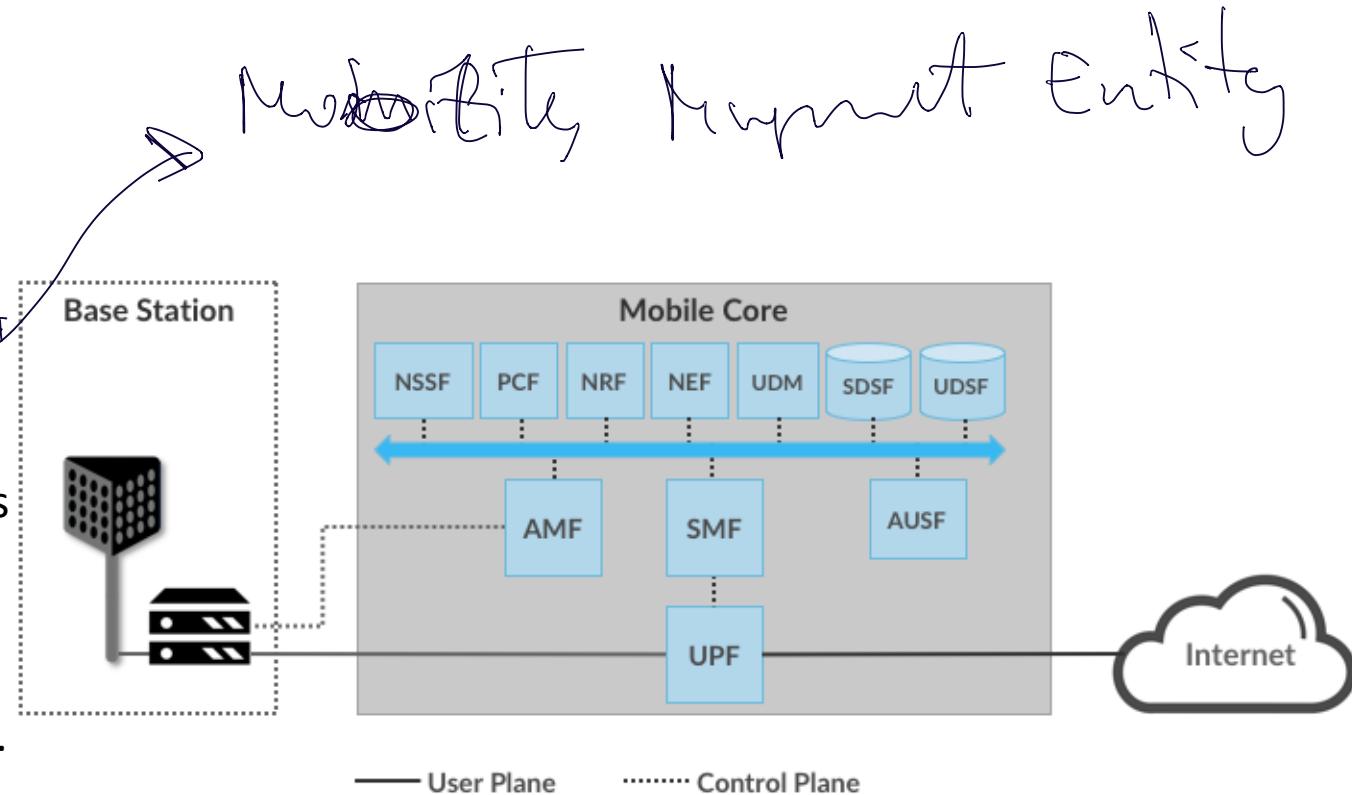
VNFs

• switch operate can  
implement this part  
in core and next to BS

# 5G Architecture - Control Plane

(inheriting from 4G)

- **AMF (Core Access and Mobility Management Function)**: connection and reachability management, mobility management, access authentication and authorization, and location services -> MME (Corresponding name in 5G)
- **SMF (Session Management Function)**: manages each UE session, including IP address allocation, selection of associated UP function, control aspects of QoS, and control aspects of UP routing. -> MME and the control-related aspects of PGW.
- **PCF (Policy Control Function)**: manages the policy rules that other CP functions then enforce. -> PCRF.
- **UDM (Unified Data Management)**: Manages user identity, including the generation of authentication credentials. -> HSS.
- **AUSF (Authentication Server Function)**: Essentially an authentication server. -> HSS.

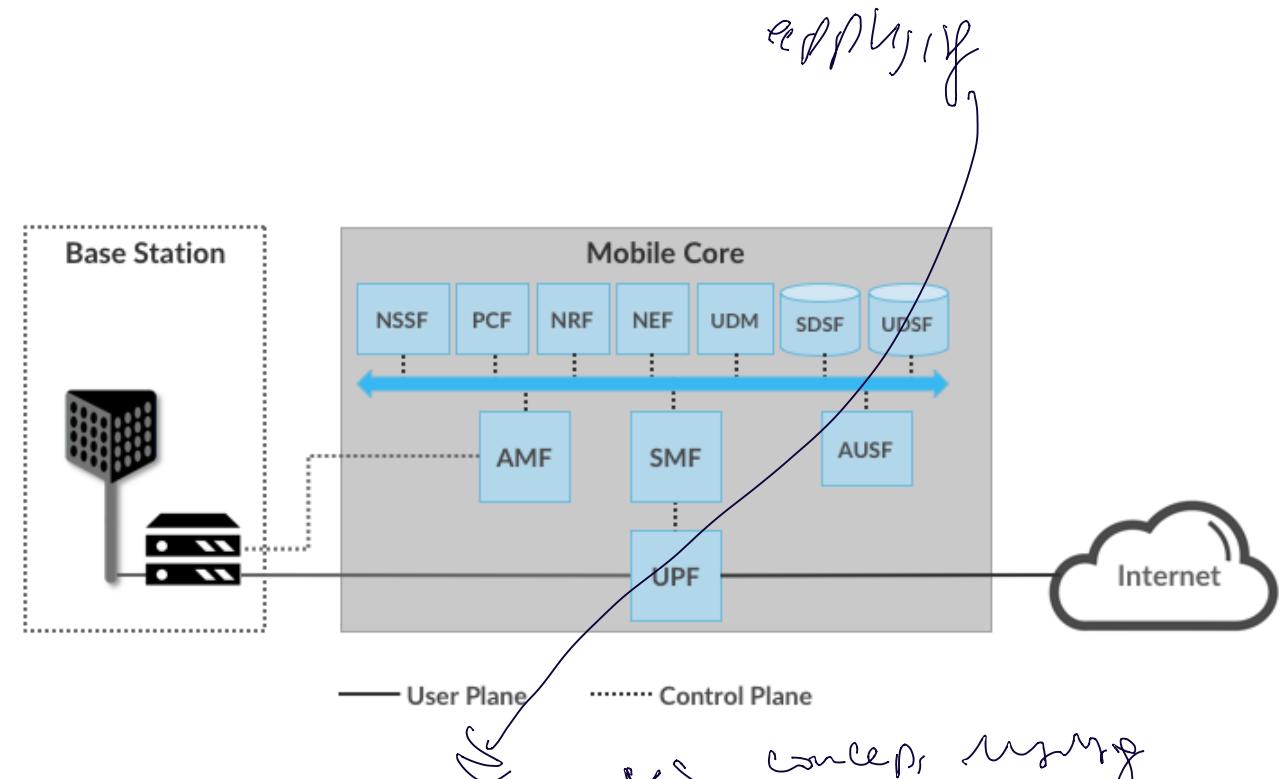


# 5G Architecture - Control Plane

*is less to separate data from application logic*

Control Plane (not existing in from 4G)

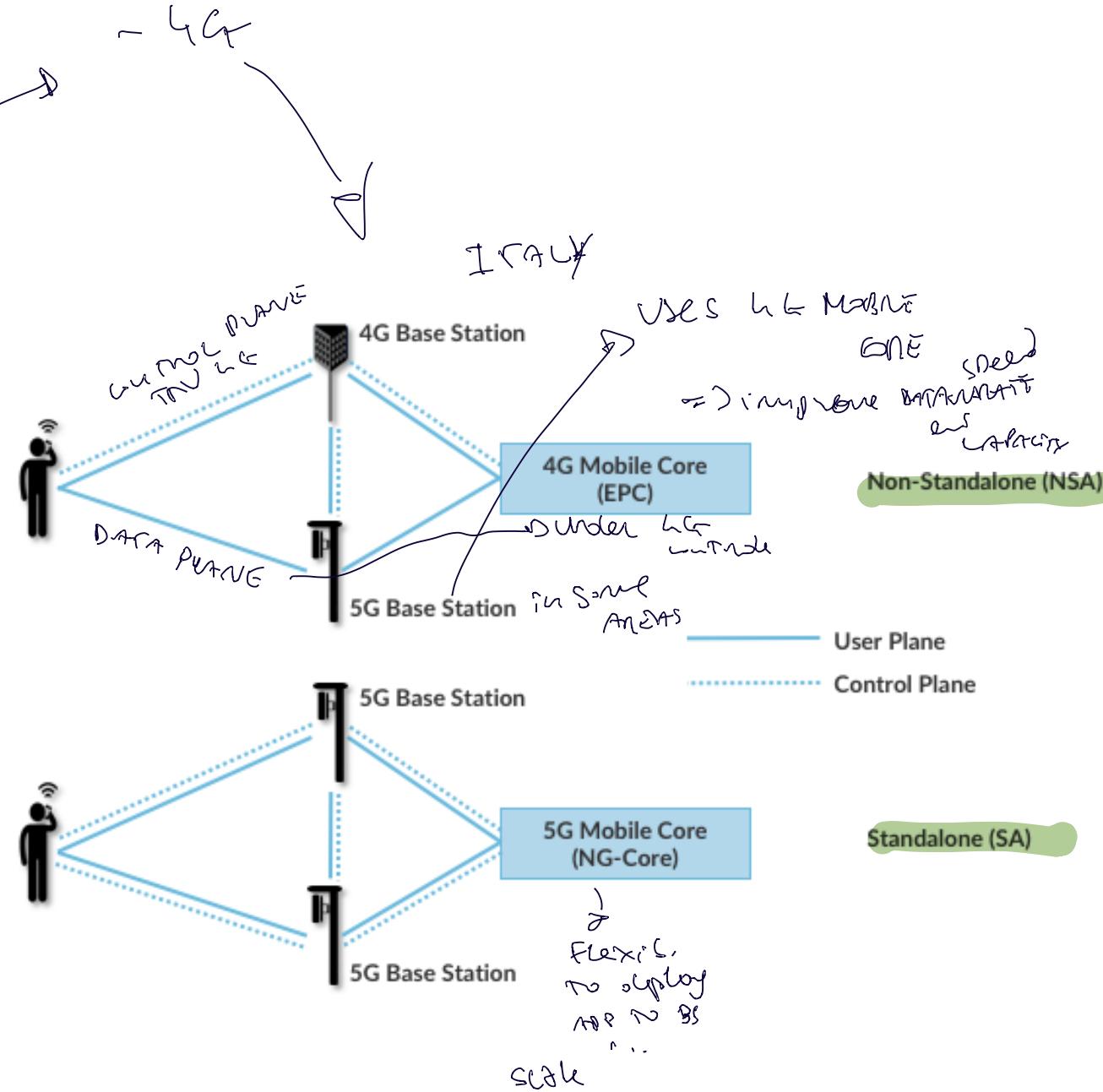
- **SDSF (Structured Data Storage Network Function)**: a “helper” service used to store structured data.
- **UDSF (Unstructured Data Storage Network Function)**: A “helper” service used to store unstructured data.
- **NEF (Network Exposure Function)**: A means to expose select capabilities to third-party services
- **NRF (NF Repository Function)**: A means to discover available services.
- **NSSF (Network Slicing Selector Function)**: A means to select a Network Slice to serve a given UE. Network slices are essentially a way to partition network resources in order to differentiate service given to different users.



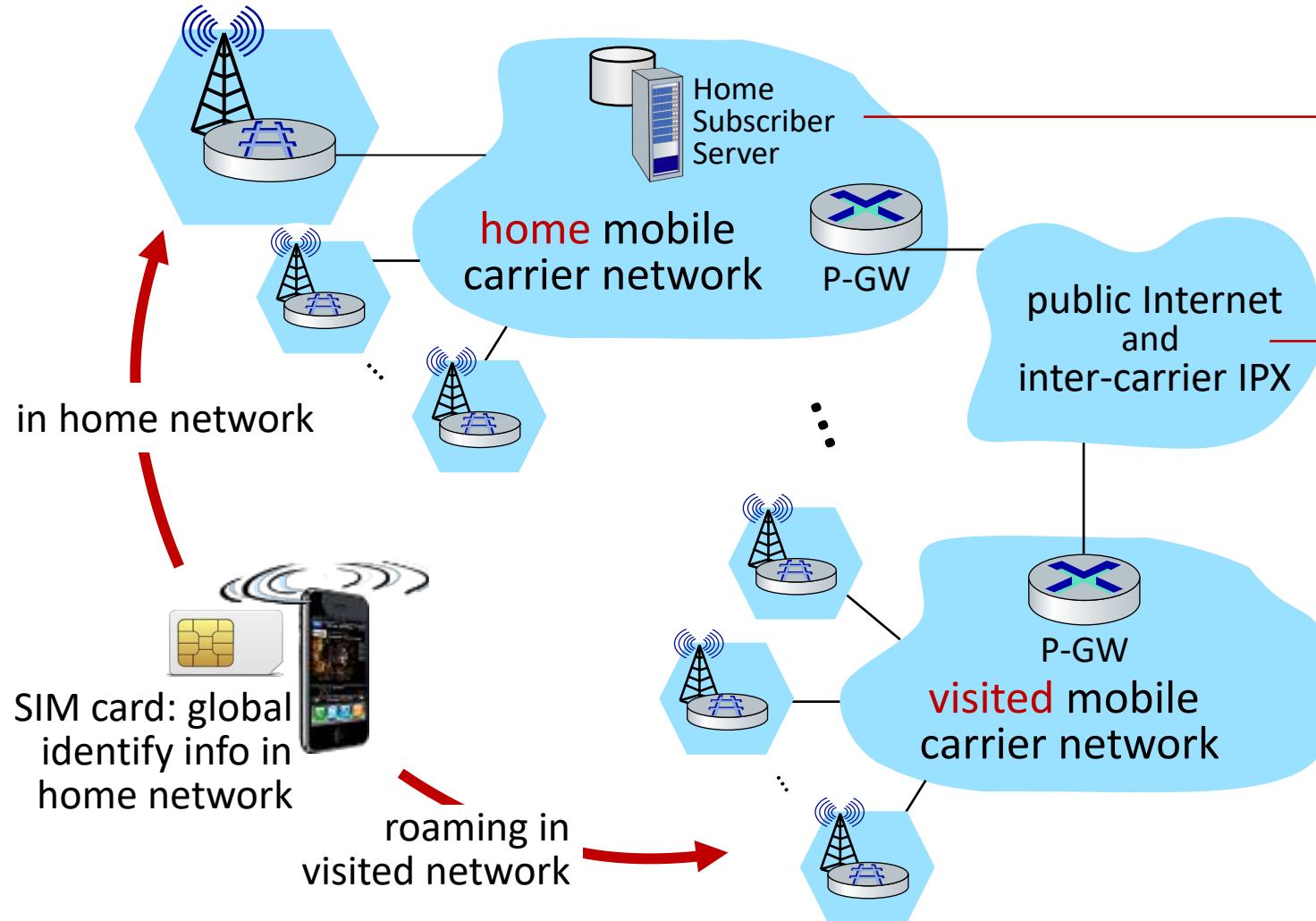
- **cloud native solution**
- **distinct storage services** means that all the other services can be stateless, and hence, more readily scalable.

# Deployment Options

- Standalone 4G / Stand-Alone 5G
- Non-Standalone (4G+5G RAN) over 4G's EPC
  - 5G base stations being deployed alongside the existing 4G base stations in a given geography to provide a data-rate and capacity boost.
  - In NSA, control plane traffic between the user equipment and the 4G Mobile Core utilizes (i.e., is forwarded through) 4G base stations, and the 5G base stations are used only to carry user traffic
- Non-Standalone (4G+5G RAN) over 5G's NG-Core



# Global cellular network: a network of IP networks



## home network HSS:

- identify & services info, while in home network and roaming

## all IP:

- carriers interconnect with each other, and public internet at exchange points
- legacy 2G, 3G: not all IP, handled otherwise

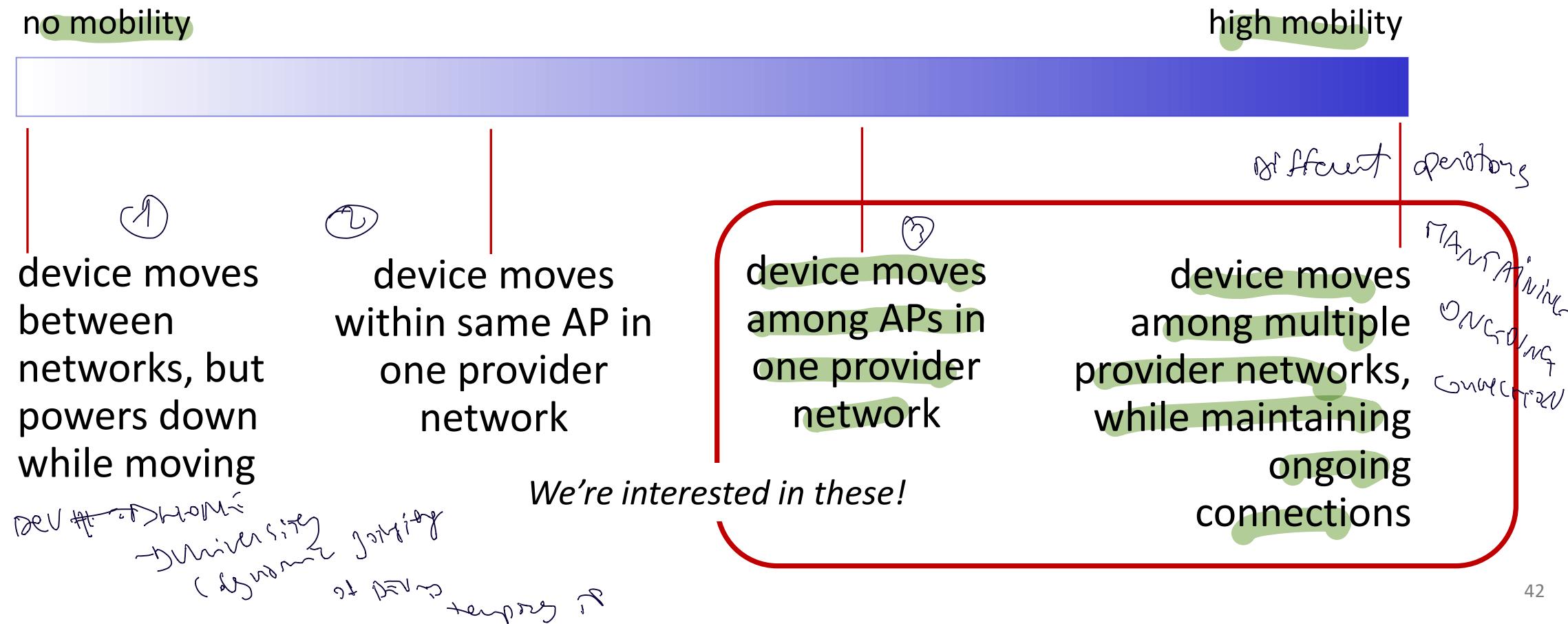
✓ AP

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    - Mobile IP
  - Impact on higher-layer protocols

# What is mobility?

- spectrum of mobility, from the network perspective:

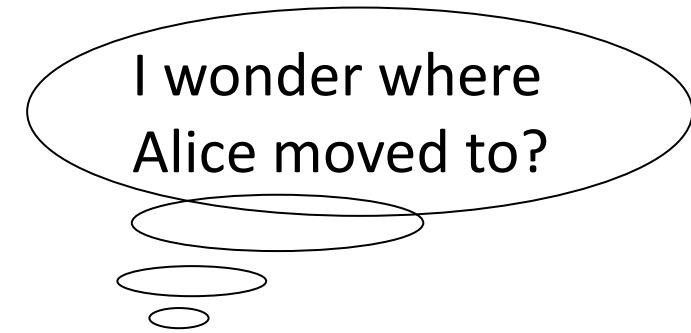


# Contacting a mobile friend:

Consider friend frequently changing locations, how do you find him/her?

- search all phone books?
- expect her to let you know where he/she is?
- call his/her parents?
- Facebook!

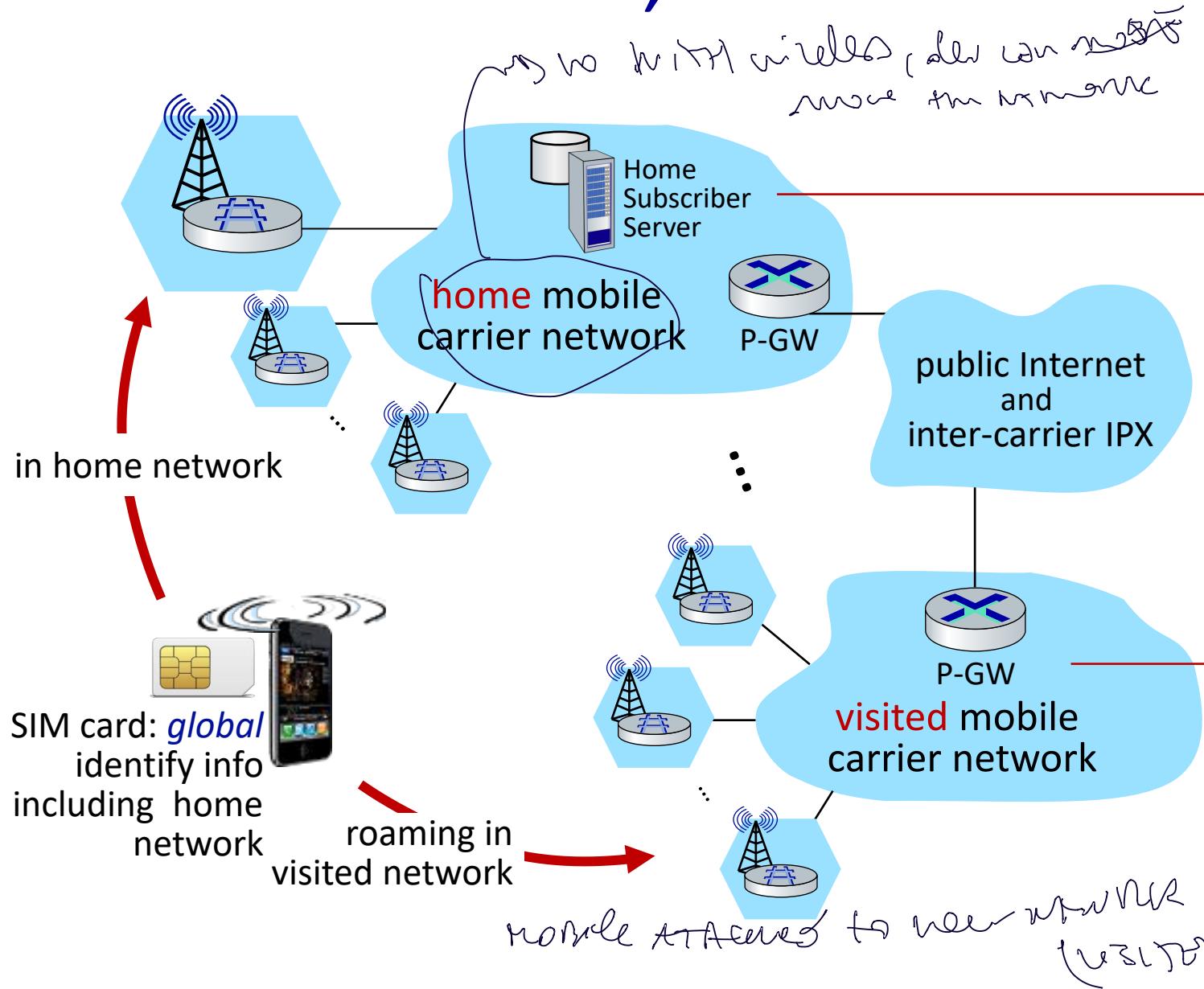
*Home network*



The importance of having a “home”:

- a definitive source of information about you
- a place where people can find out where you are

# Home network, visited network: 4G/5G



Ever Roaming or concept:

## home network:

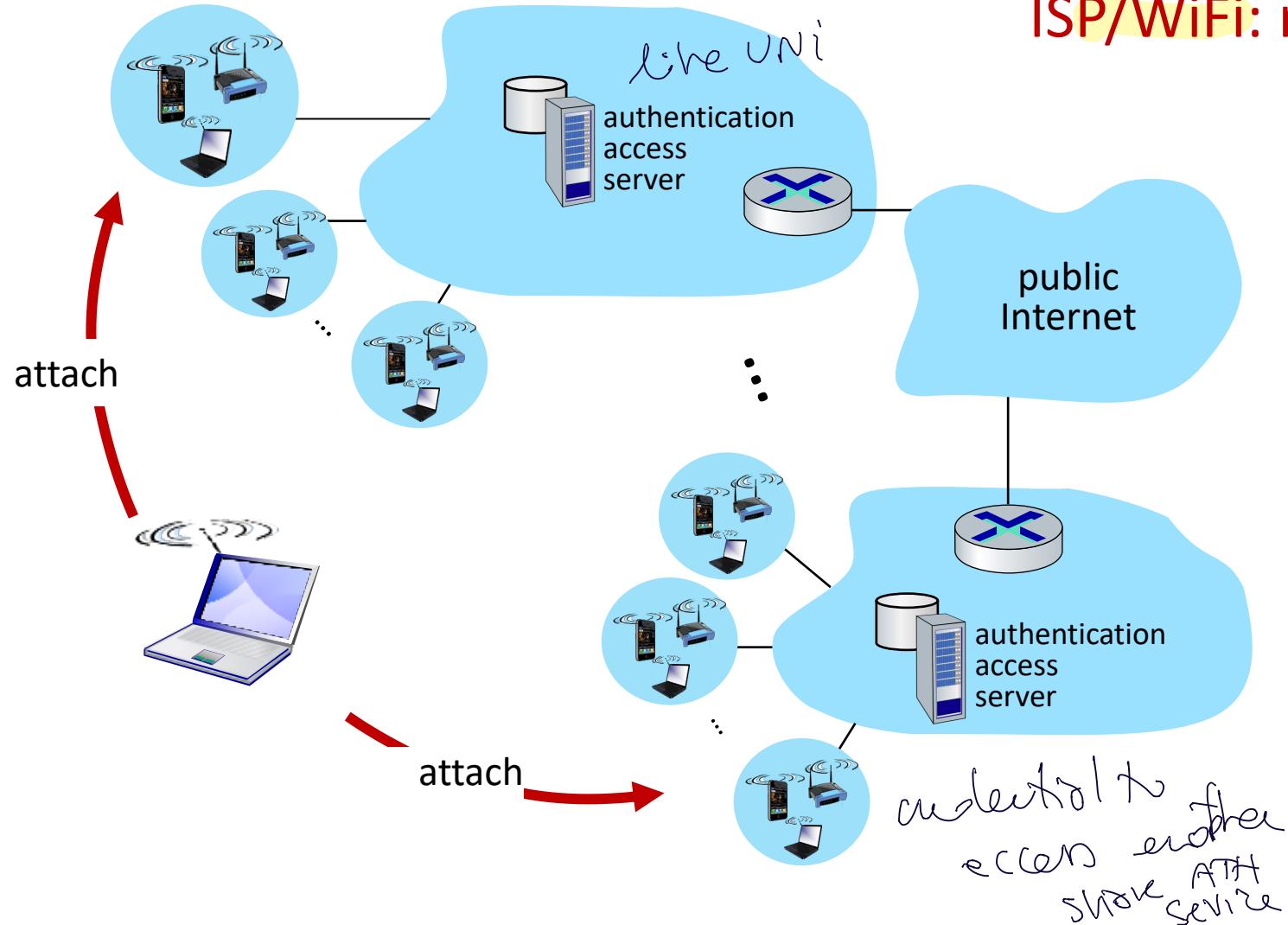
- (paid) service plan with cellular provider, e.g., Verizon, Orange
- home network HSS stores identify & services info

## visited network:

- any network other than your home network
- service agreement with other networks: to provide access to visiting mobile

HOME  
VISITED NETWORK

# Home network, visited network: ISP/WiFi



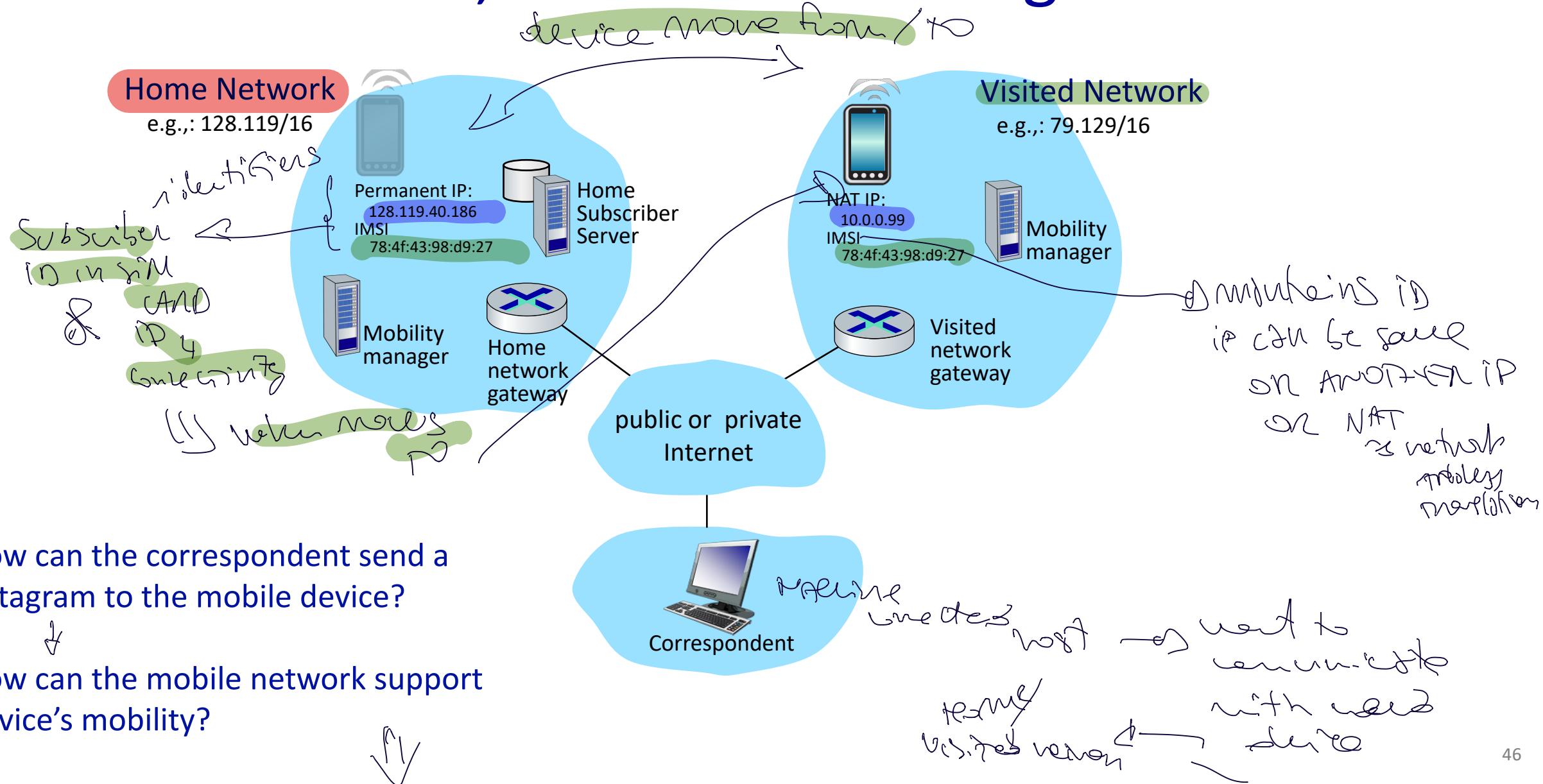
ISP/WiFi: no notion of global “home”

- credentials from ISP (e.g., username, password) stored on device or with user
- ISPs may have national, international presence
- different networks: different credentials
  - some exceptions (e.g., eduroam)
  - architectures exist (mobile IP) for 4G-like mobility, but not used

Federated identities like eduroam  
MANAGE AUTH

Problem:  
 ↗ STATELESS  
 ↗ mobility

# Home network, visited network: generic



# Mobility approaches

like internet

a set of red routers interacting

## let network (routers) handle it:

- routers advertise well-known name, address (e.g., permanent 32-bit IP address), or number (e.g., cell #) of visiting mobile node via usual routing table exchange
- Internet routing could do this already *with no changes!* Routing tables indicate where each mobile located via longest prefix match!

→ update RTABLES → reached the given path  
⇒ Chatty RT of routers

→ in routers we aggregate when  
→ don't want 100...00 RT as  
Entries in RT

⇒ hot saddle

# Mobility approaches

idea: managed by mobile node  
(node/visitor)  
at the edge

2

- let network (routers) handle it:

- routers advertise well-known address (e.g., permanent 32-bit IP address), or number of visiting mobile node via usual routing table exchange
- Internet routing could do the same with *no changes!* Routing tables indicate where each mobile located via longest prefix match!

not scalable to billions of mobiles

the home net  
→

- **let end-systems handle it: functionality at the “edge”**

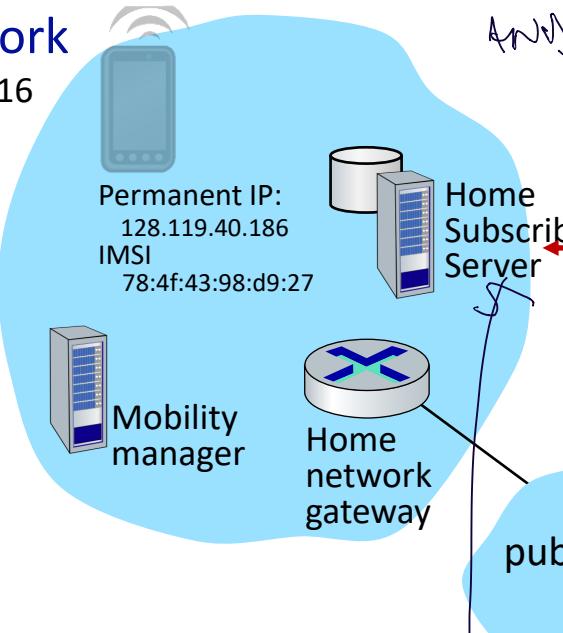
- *indirect routing*: communication from correspondent to mobile goes through home network, then forwarded to remote mobile
- *direct routing*: correspondent gets foreign address of mobile, send directly to mobile
  - contact HN where mobile resides and what to contact visited network

*Sign*

# Registration: home needs to know where you are!

## Home Network

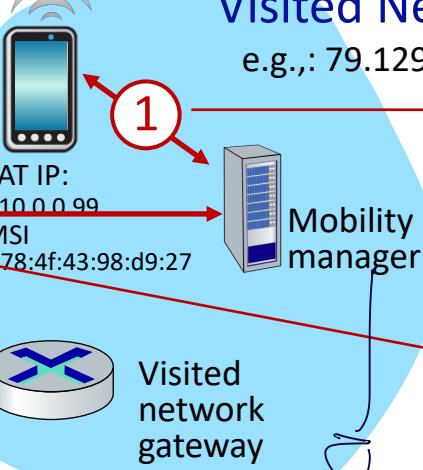
e.g.: 128.119/16



mech AT&T  
any association

## Visited Network

e.g.: 79.129/16



temporary IP address

mobile associates with visited mobility manager

visited mobility manager registers mobile's location with home HSS

The mobile device needs an IP address in the visited network

→ to be destination of packets

- permanent address associated with the mobile device's home network
- new address in the address range of the visited network
- IP address via NAT

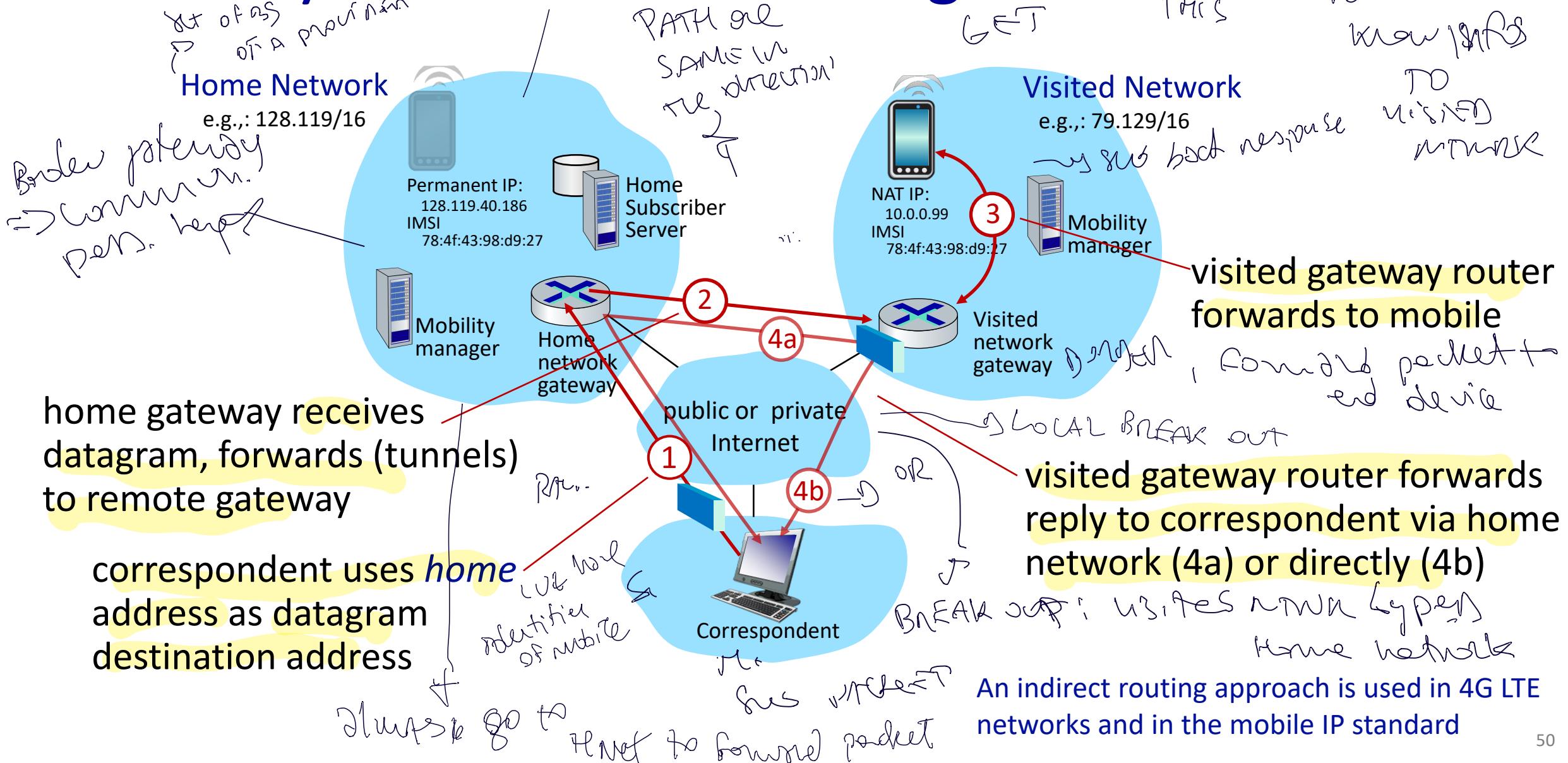
Transient identifiers

end result:

- visited mobility manager knows about mobile
- home HSS knows location of mobile

context from home network

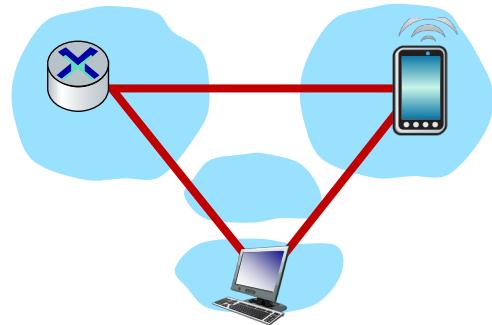
# Mobility with indirect routing



# Mobility with indirect routing: what is required?

(CONTROL PLANE) As mobile user moves

- A mobile-device-to-visited-network association protocol
  - ① The mobile device will need to associate with the visited network, and will similarly need to disassociate when leaving the visited network
- visited-network-to-home-network-HSS registration protocol
  - ② The visited network will need to register the mobile device's location with the HSS in the home network
- A datagram tunneling protocol between the home network gateway and the visited network gateway router
  - ③ The home gateway performs encapsulation and forwarding of the correspondent's original datagram
  - ④ On the receiving side, the gateway router performs decapsulation, NAT translation, and forwarding of the original datagram to the mobile device



→ local setup service  
Established  
Tunnel  
To  
mayo  
this  
mobility

can dialog  
to AUTH dev.  
and service func  
Mobile  
subscribe  
can download  
& update  
DB

Tunnel is encapsulation → a packet can have original dataplane and change source/dest addresses

# Mobility with indirect routing: comments

consistency  
loss

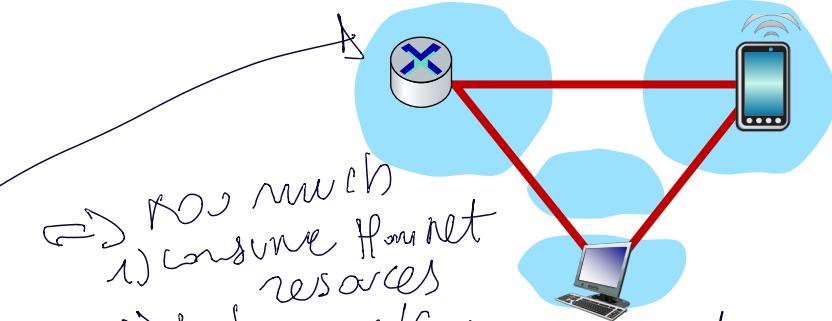
or ~  
(mobile  
ent  
network  
with GPRS)

- triangle routing:

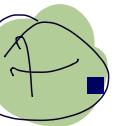


- inefficient when correspondent and mobile are in same network

*Mobile: home gateway*



latency C/S is increased



- mobile moves among visited networks: transparent to correspondent!

- associates in new visited network
- new visited network registers with home HSS
- datagrams continue to be forwarded from home network to mobile in new network

*- external host (correspondent)  
don't need to know mobile  
device is (just address)  
everything managed by home net*

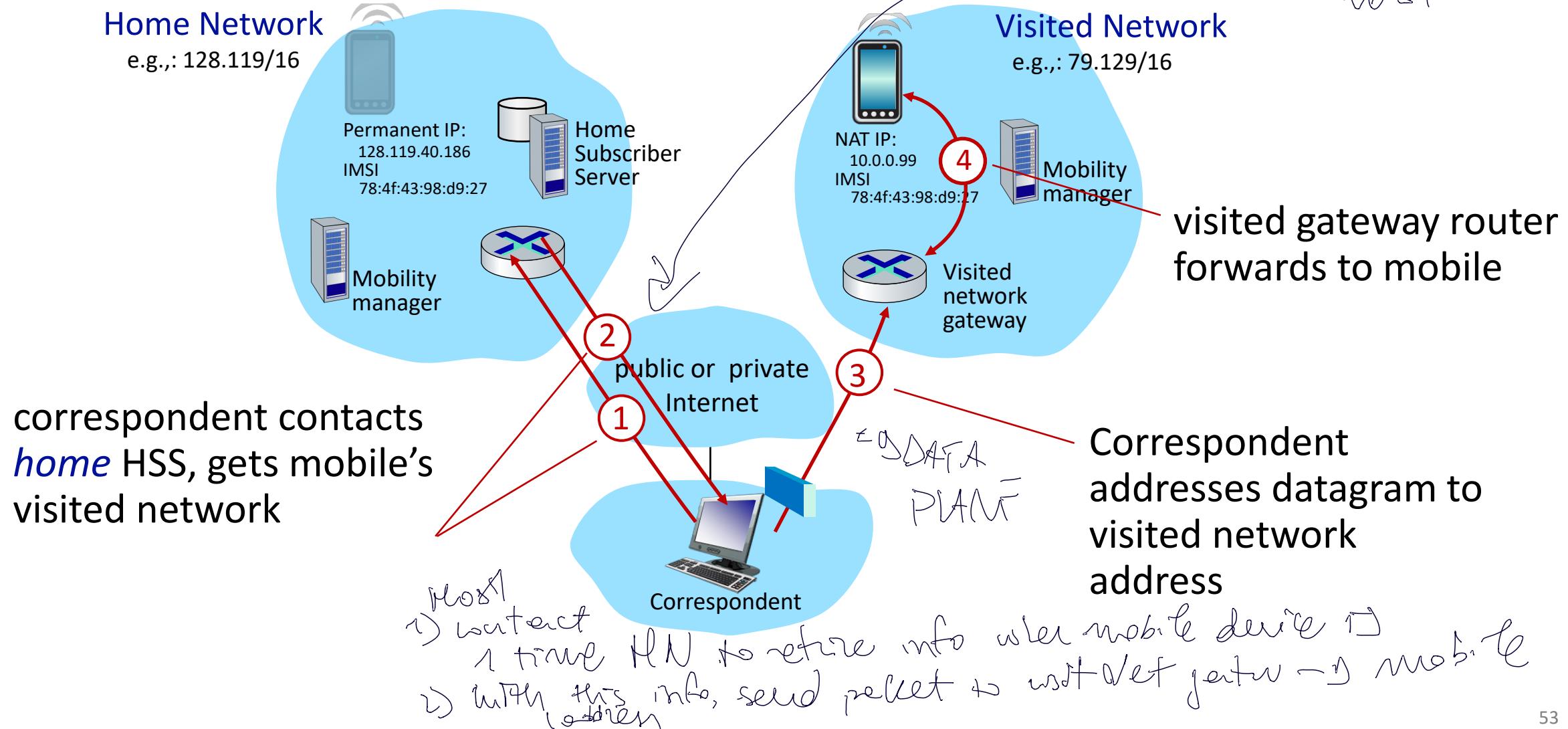
- But will the mobile device see an interrupted flow of datagrams as it moves between networks?

- A few datagrams may be lost but...*
- on-going (e.g., TCP) connections between correspondent and mobile can be maintained!*

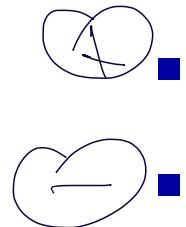
*→ need ~~one-to-one~~ control message to manage mobility; reliable transport services  
TCP → establishing at  
CDP → app level*

# Mobility with direct routing

more control msg exchanged  
+ to locate lost



# Mobility with direct routing: comments



- overcomes triangle routing inefficiencies

INDIRECT  
InDirect  
inefficient but simple

DETA: cost of movements



- *non-transparent to correspondent*: correspondent must get care-of-

address from home agent

here: covers control + time now for  
→ retire IP address

of device essential  
to visited

as early

if device moves  
from 1 visited network → served by different net  
to another

it's ID changes

- what if mobile changes visited network?

- In case of indirect routing: easily solved by

IS IT updating the HSS in the home network

if device moves  
from 1 visited network → served by different net  
to another

• changing the tunnel endpoint to terminate at the gateway router of the new visited network

MOBILITY HERE IS SIMPLE

IT'S ID changes

- In case of indirect routing: can be handled, but with additional complexity

- the HSS is queried by the correspondent only at the beginning of the session

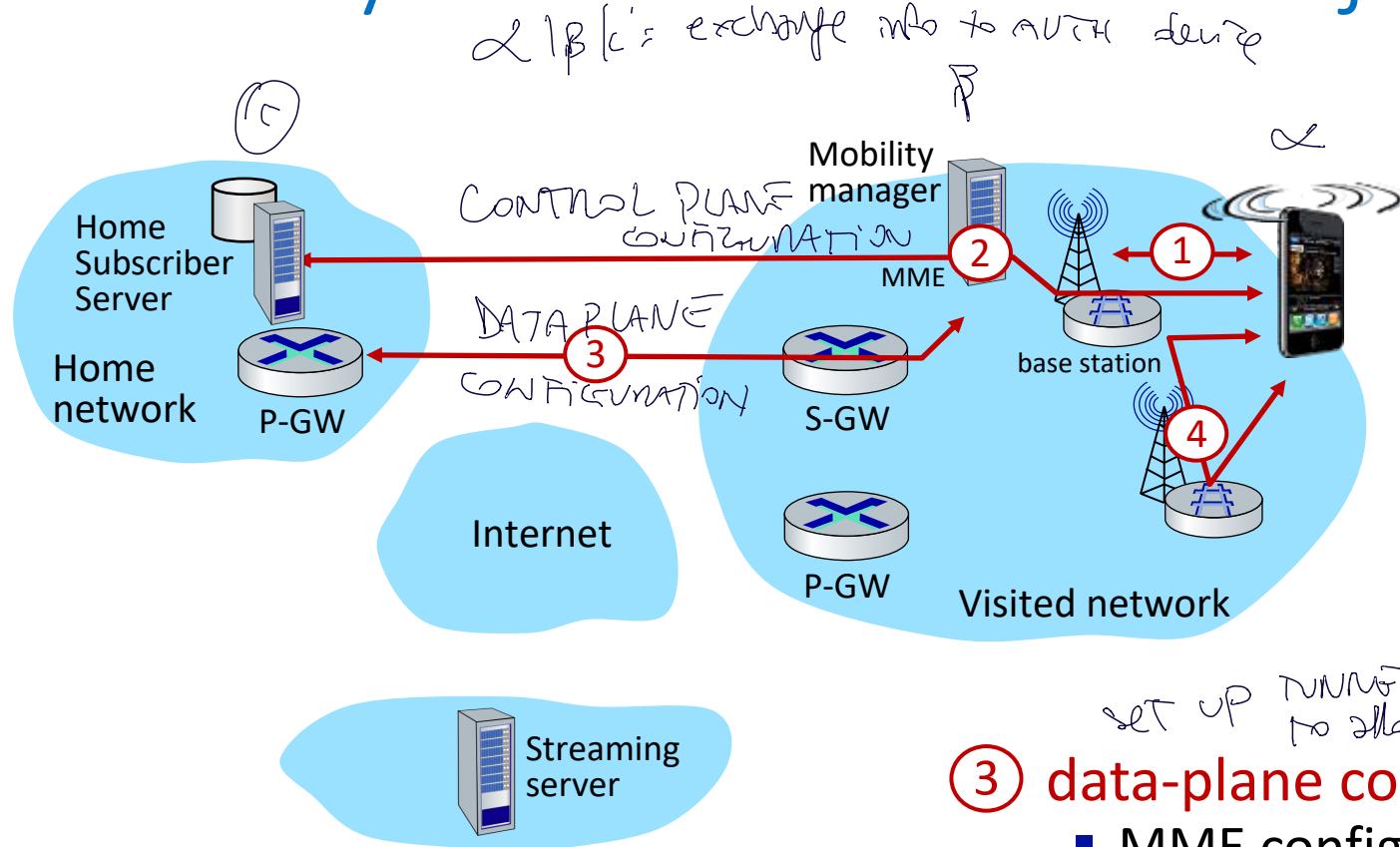
Device location info

to know  
are movements  
of end device

periodically  
location info  
control

# Mobility in 4G networks: major mobility tasks

INDIRECT (N) 4G  
implemented



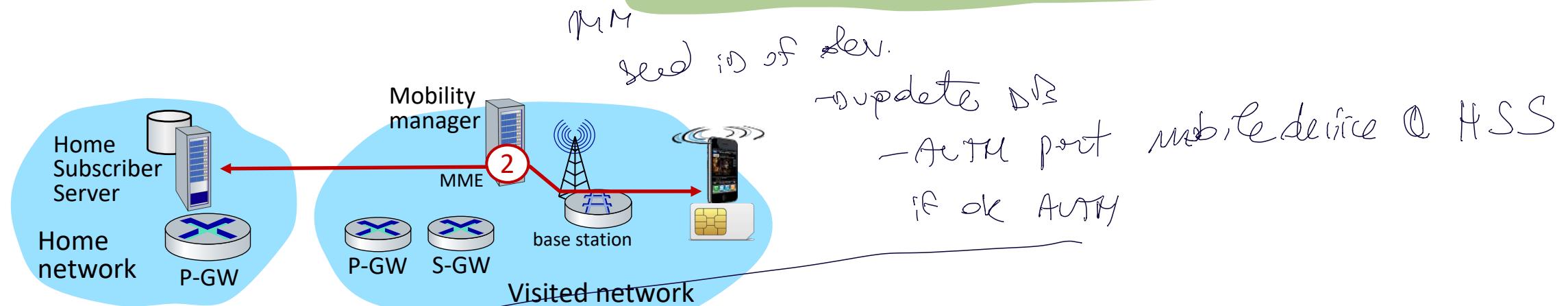
- ① base station association:**
- mobile device associates with a BS in the visited network
  - mobile provides IMSI – identifying itself, home network

- ② control-plane configuration:**
- MME, home HSS establish control-plane state - mobile is in visited network

- ③ data-plane configuration:**
- MME configures forwarding tunnels for mobile
  - Visited and home networks establish tunnels from home P-GW to mobile

- ④ mobile handover:** mobile device changes its point of attachment to visited network
- mobile device changes its point of attachment to visited network
  - A handover occurs when a mobile device changes its association from one BS to another

## 2. Configuring LTE control-plane elements



- Mobile communicates with local MME via BS control-plane channel
- MME uses mobile's IMSI info to contact mobile's home HSS
  - retrieve authentication, encryption, network service information
  - home HSS knows mobile now resident in visited network
- BS and mobile select parameters for BS-mobile data-plane radio channel
  - link between BS and device

### 3. Configuring data-plane tunnels for mobile

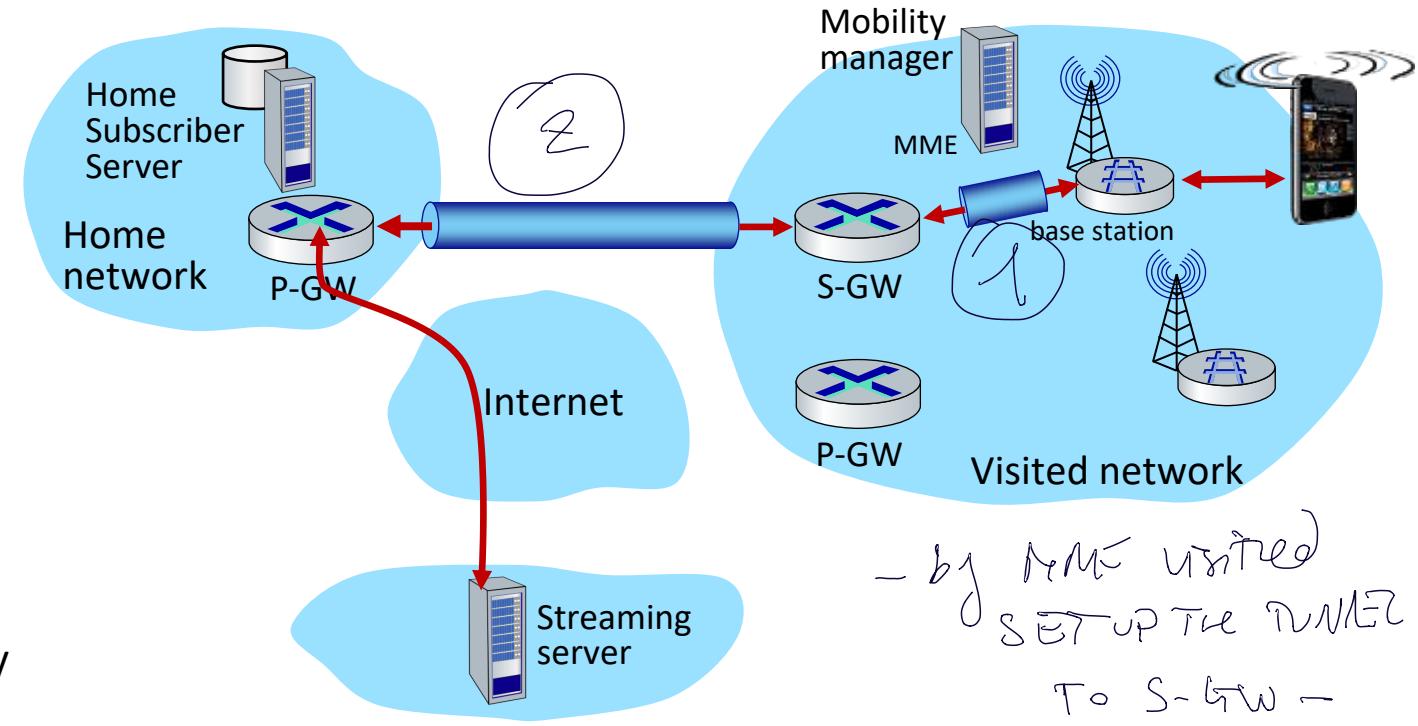
- The MME configures the data plane for the mobile device
- all traffic to/from the mobile device will be tunneled through the device's home network
- Two tunnels established

#### 1. S-GW to BS tunnel

when mobile changes base stations, simply change endpoint IP address of tunnel

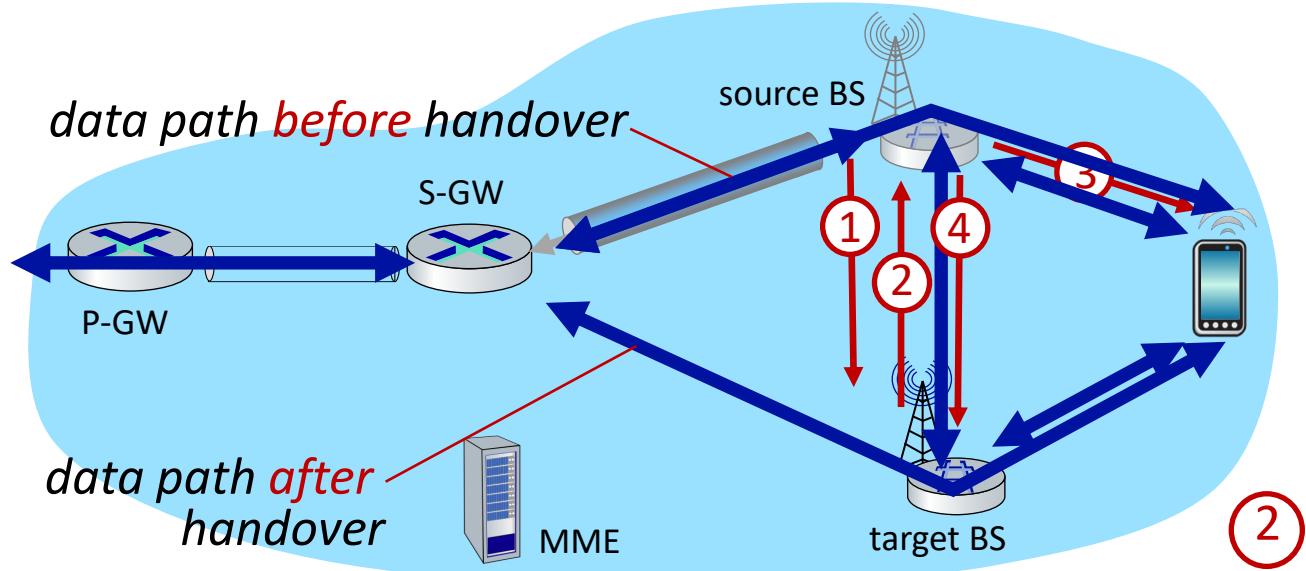
#### 2. S-GW to home P-GW tunnel

implementation of indirect routing



- tunneling via GTP (GPRS tunneling protocol): mobile's datagram to streaming server encapsulated using GTP

# 4. Handover between BSs in same cellular network

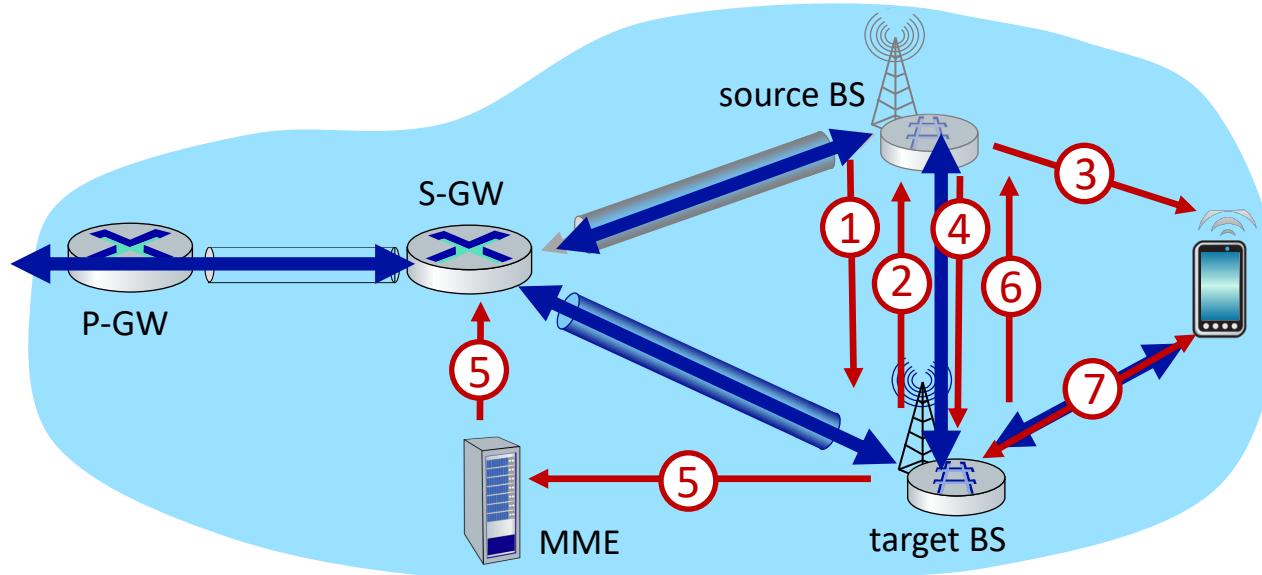


- change termination point of tunnel
- ① current (source) BS chooses to select a handover whose handoff device (e.g. due to cell overloading, signal deterioration between mobile and BS)
- ② selects target BS, sends **Handover Request message** to target BS  
To inform to route mobile device
- ③ target BS pre-allocates radio time slots, responds with HR ACK with info for mobile

→ move to closer best BS for device

- ④ source BS stops sending datagrams to mobile, instead forwards to new BS (who forwards to mobile over radio channel)  
For a while, tunnel not configured  
and TMA le 2 BS

## 4. Handover between BSs in same cellular network



*HAN change TUNNEL con P-GW*

- ⑤ target BS informs MME that it is new BS for mobile
- MME instructs S-GW to change tunnel endpoint to be (new) target BS

- ⑥ target BS ACKs back to source BS: handover complete, source BS can release resources *SOURCE BS forward just ready packet*
- ⑦ mobile's datagrams now flow through new tunnel from target BS to S-GW

# Mobile IP

- mobile IP architecture standardized ~20 years ago [RFC 5944]
  - long before ubiquitous smartphones, 4G support for Internet protocols
  - did not see wide deployment/use
  - perhaps WiFi for Internet, and 2G/3G phones for voice were “good enough” at the time
- mobile IP architecture:
  - indirect routing to node (via home network) using tunnels
  - mobile IP home agent: combined roles of 4G HSS and home P-GW
  - mobile IP foreign agent: combined roles of 4G MME and S-GW
  - protocols for agent discovery in visited network, registration of visited location in home network via ICMP extensions

# Wireless, mobility: impact on higher layer protocols

may loose some packets supporting mobility

⇒ TCP/UDP can run  
seamlessly over Network  
⇒ + performance  
- UDP doesn't care losses  
- TCP performance drops  
with packet lost

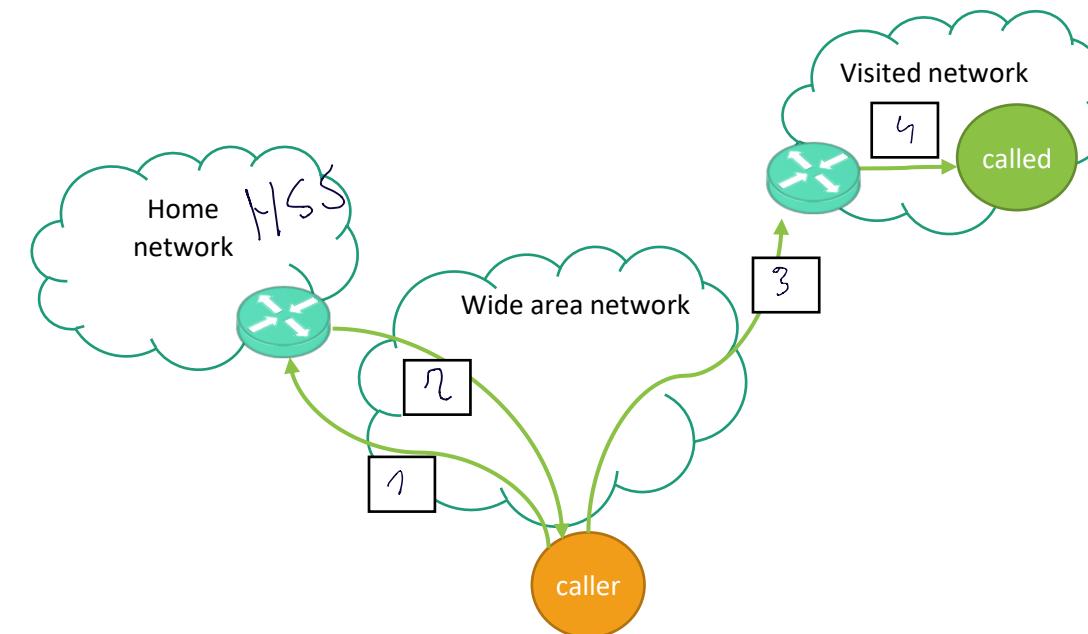
- logically, impact *should* be minimal ...
  - best effort service model remains unchanged
  - TCP and UDP can (and do) run over wireless, mobile
- ... but performance-wise:
  - packet loss/delay due to bit-errors (discarded packets, delays for link-layer retransmissions), and handover loss
  - TCP interprets loss as congestion, will decrease congestion window unnecessarily (side effect of mobility)
  - delay impairments for real-time traffic
  - bandwidth a scarce resource for wireless links

# Quiz

1. When a mobile device is handed over from one base station to another in a 4G/5G network, which network element makes the decision to initiate that handover? *BS*
2. Which network element chooses the target base station to which the mobile device will be handed over? *Source BS*

# Question

Considering the following picture which represents the interactions (with arrows) necessary to set up a communication between two terminals with **direct routing**, number the arrows in order of time of occurrence and explain, for each interaction (arrow), what is its purpose.



# References

*Title: 5G Mobile Networks: A Systems Approach*

*Authors: Larry Peterson and Oguz Sunay*

*Source: <https://github.com/SystemsApproach/5G>*

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