

**COMP3516: Data Analytics for IoT**

# **Lecture 2: Wireless for IoT**

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2025 Spring



香港大學  
THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

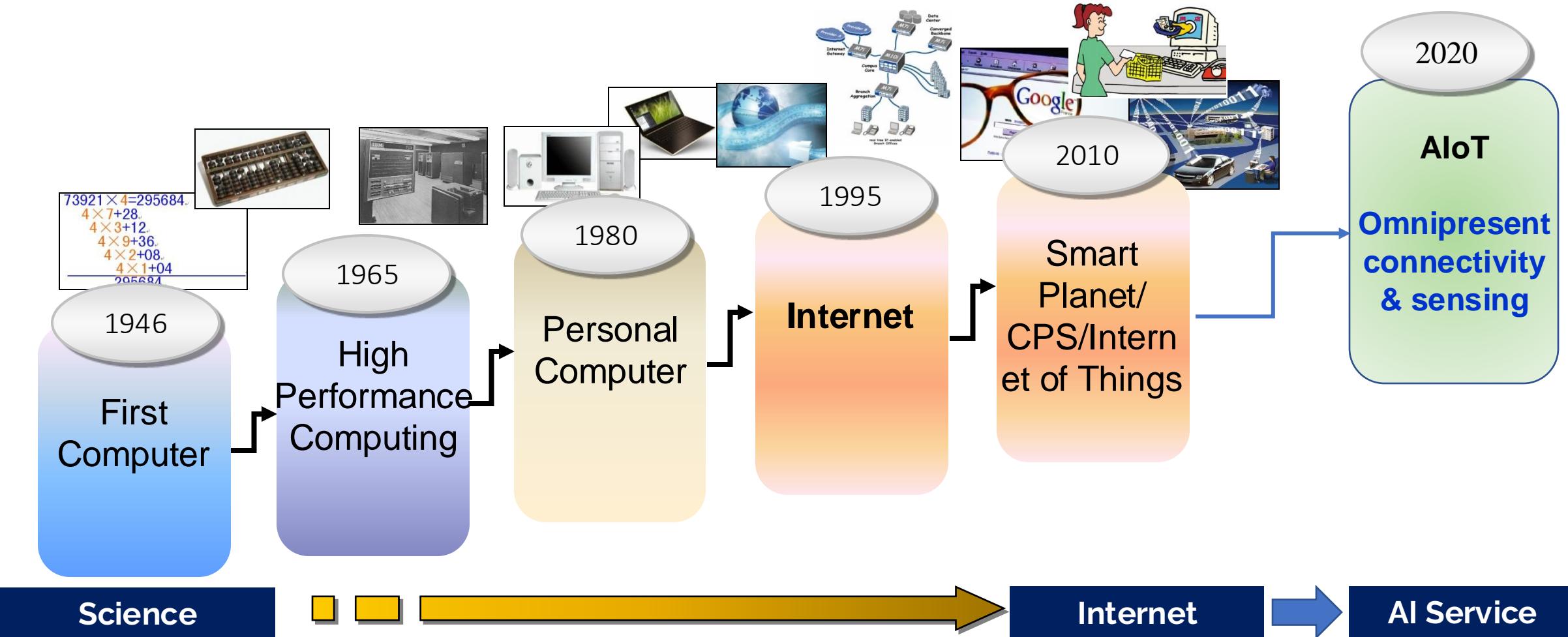


# Real-life Examples for Wireless IoT?

# Content

- Internet
- Wireless Networks
- Wireless Sensor Networks
- LoRa Communication
- Other IoT Wireless Protocols
  - ZigBee, Bluetooth, VLC, WiFi...

# Computing as Science



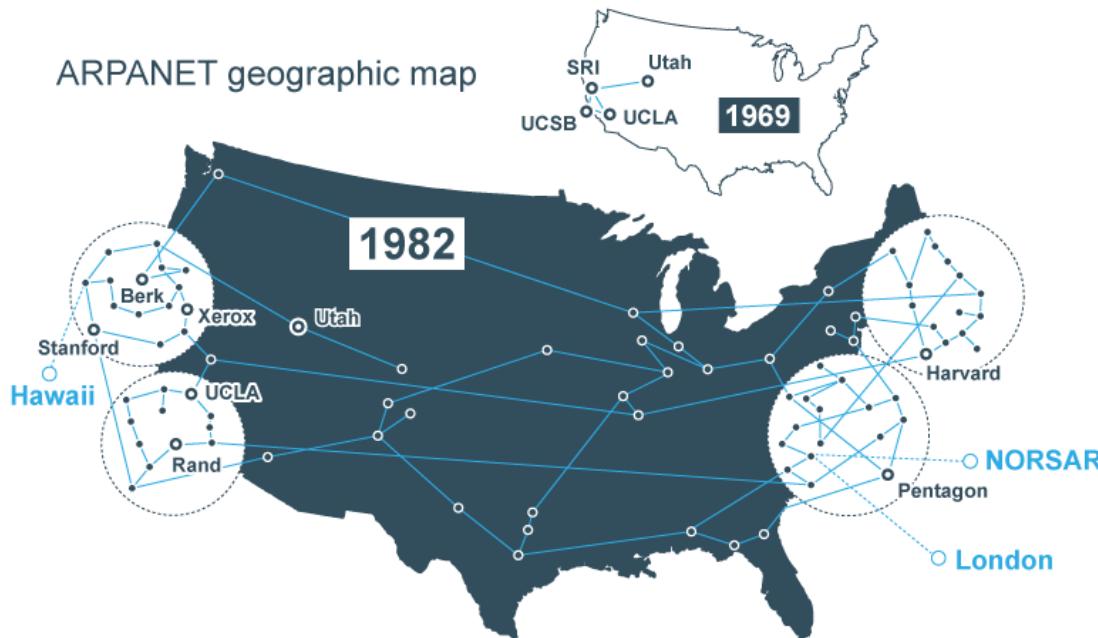
# ARPA<sup>n</sup>et

□ 1967: ARPA<sup>n</sup>et conceived by Advanced Research Projects Agency

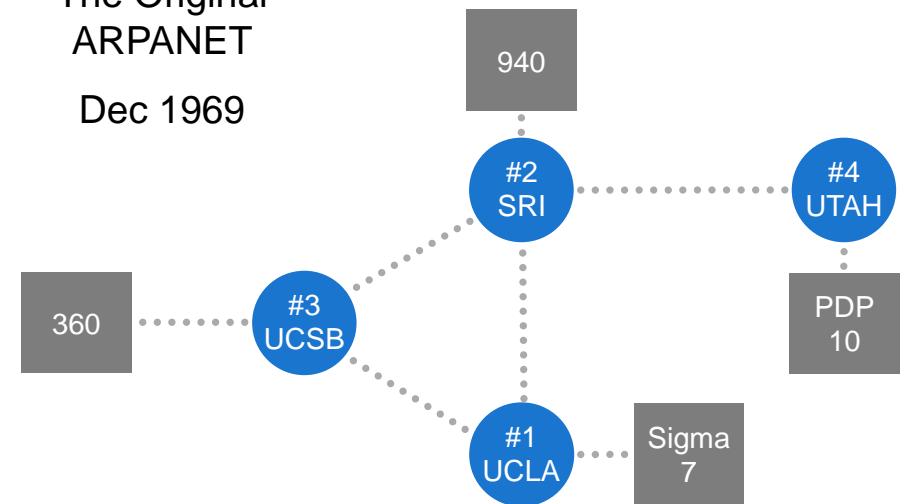


# ARPAnet

- 1969: First ARPAnet node operational
- 1982: TCP/IP is emerged into ARPAnet



The Original  
ARPANET  
Dec 1969

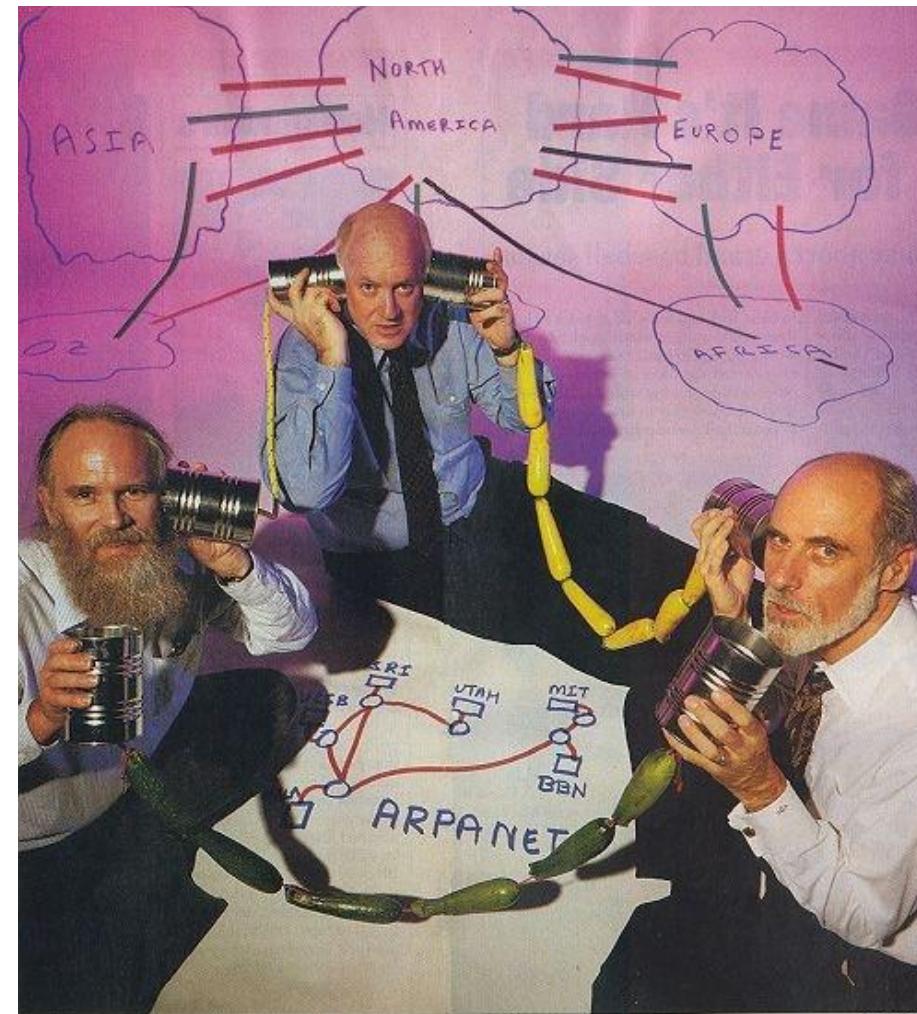


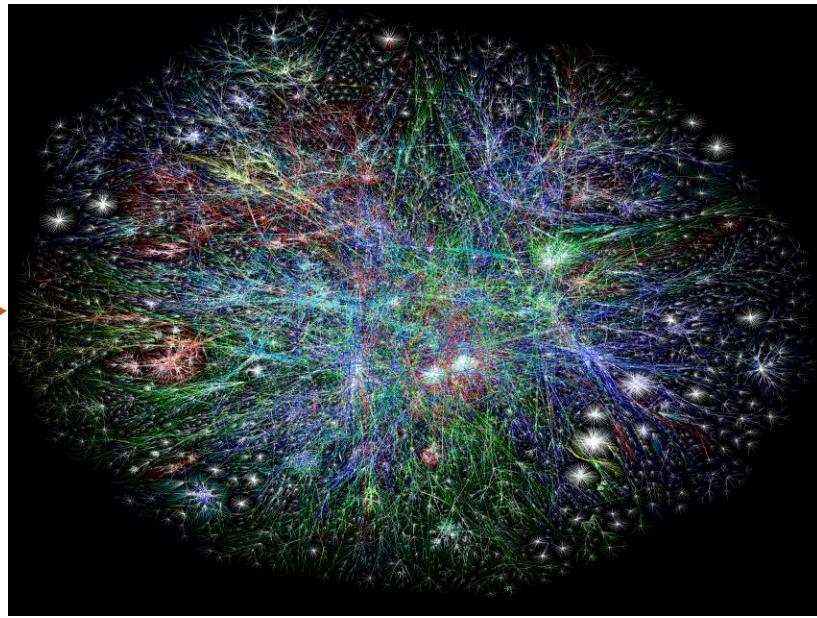
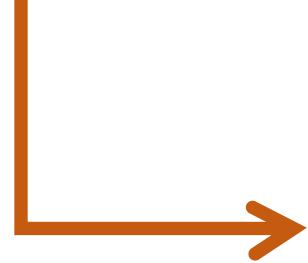
*From Vinton Cerf*

*From Vinton Cerf*

# 25th Anniversary of ARPANET – 1994

*Jon Postel, Steve Crocker, Vint Cerf*







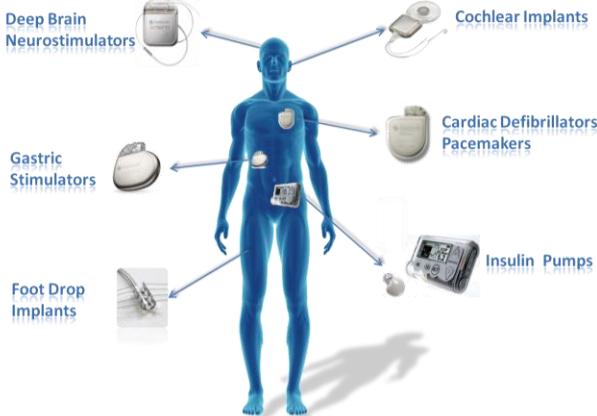
The greatest illusion about network is the  
feeling that it does not exist.

# Wireless Networks Are Every Where

## Wireless Homes



## Wireless Biomedical Implants



## Wireless Wearables



## Cellular Networks



## Wireless Sensors



## UAVs



## Wireless Data Centers



## Wireless VR



## Wireless Vehicles

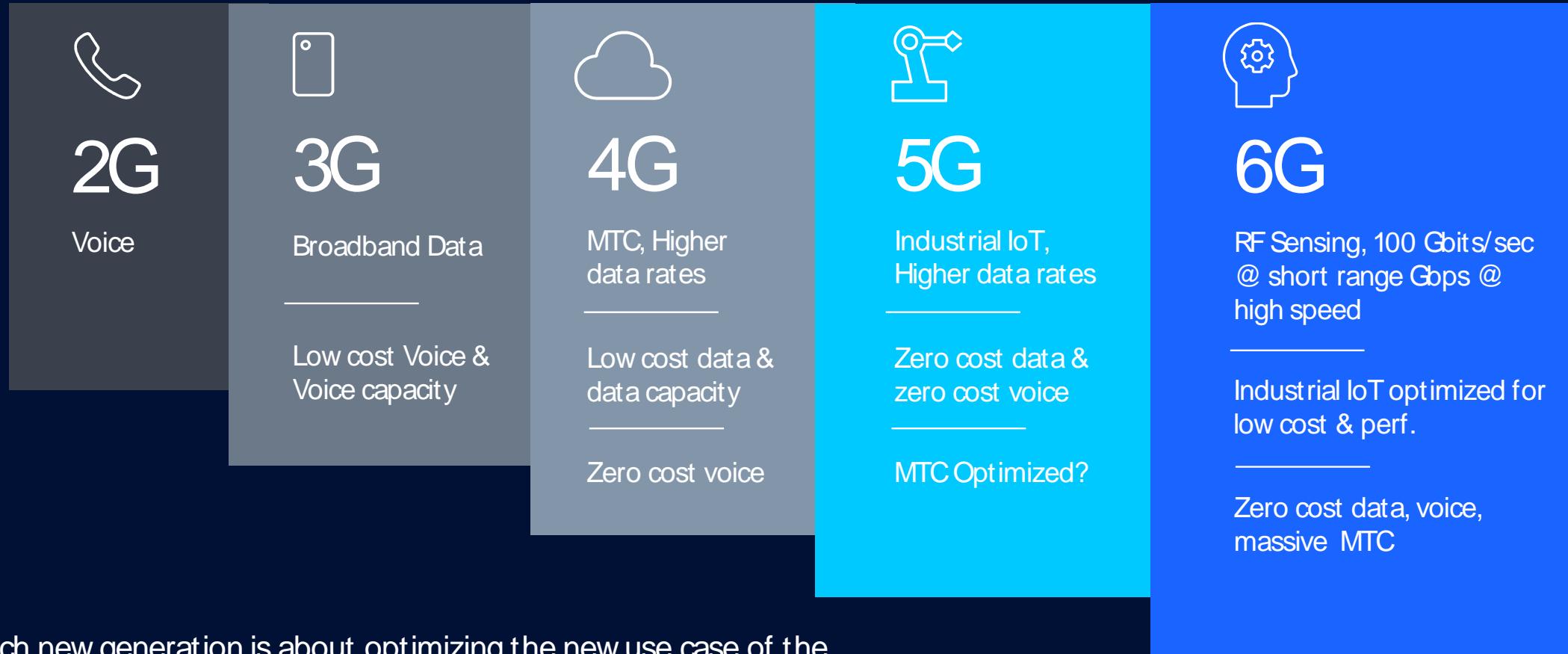


# Wireless-less?

- 10 years ago:
  - Cannot believe that a laptop has no Ethernet port
- Now:
  - Cannot believe that a laptop still has an Ethernet port

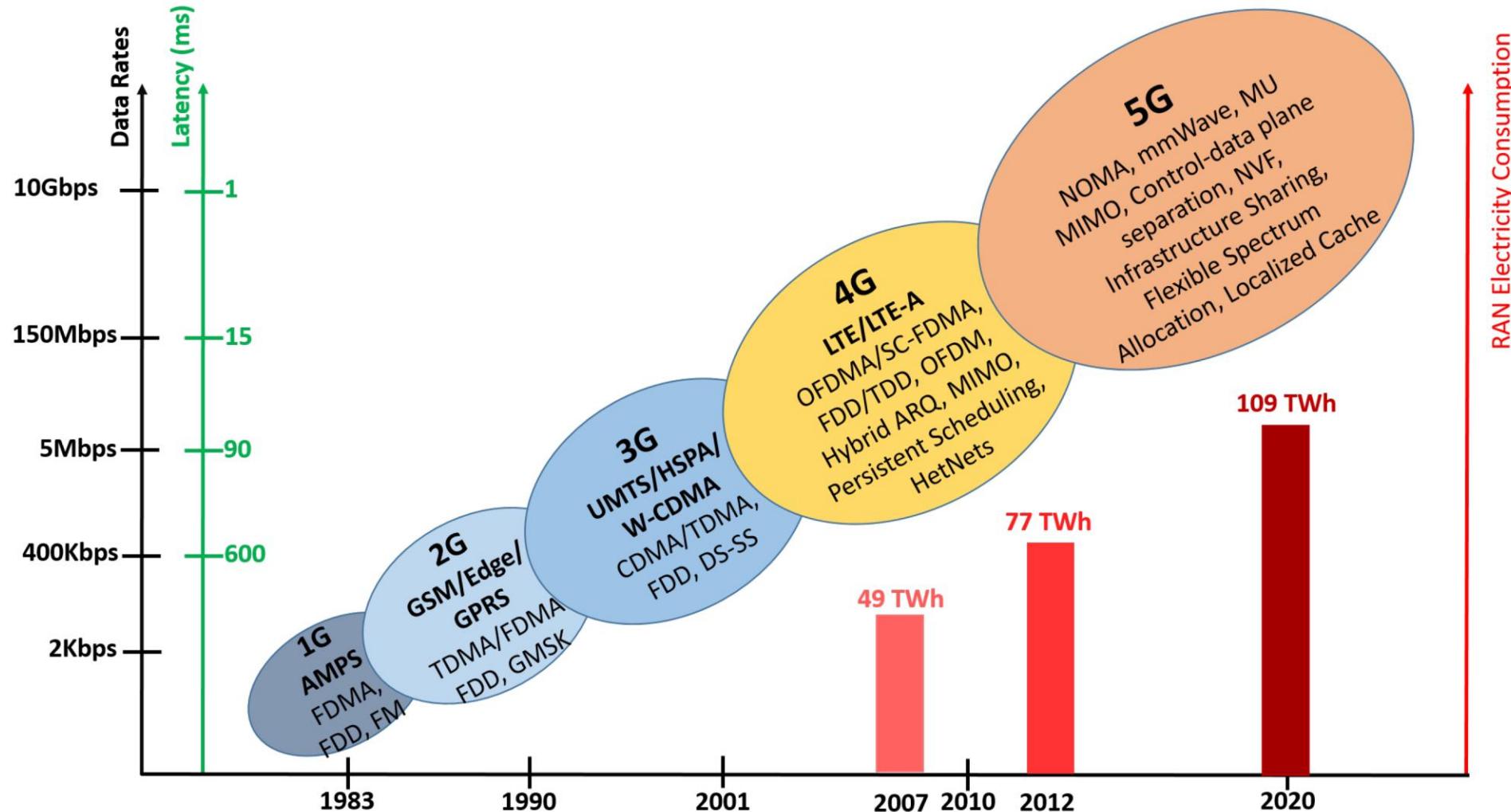


# The past, present, and future

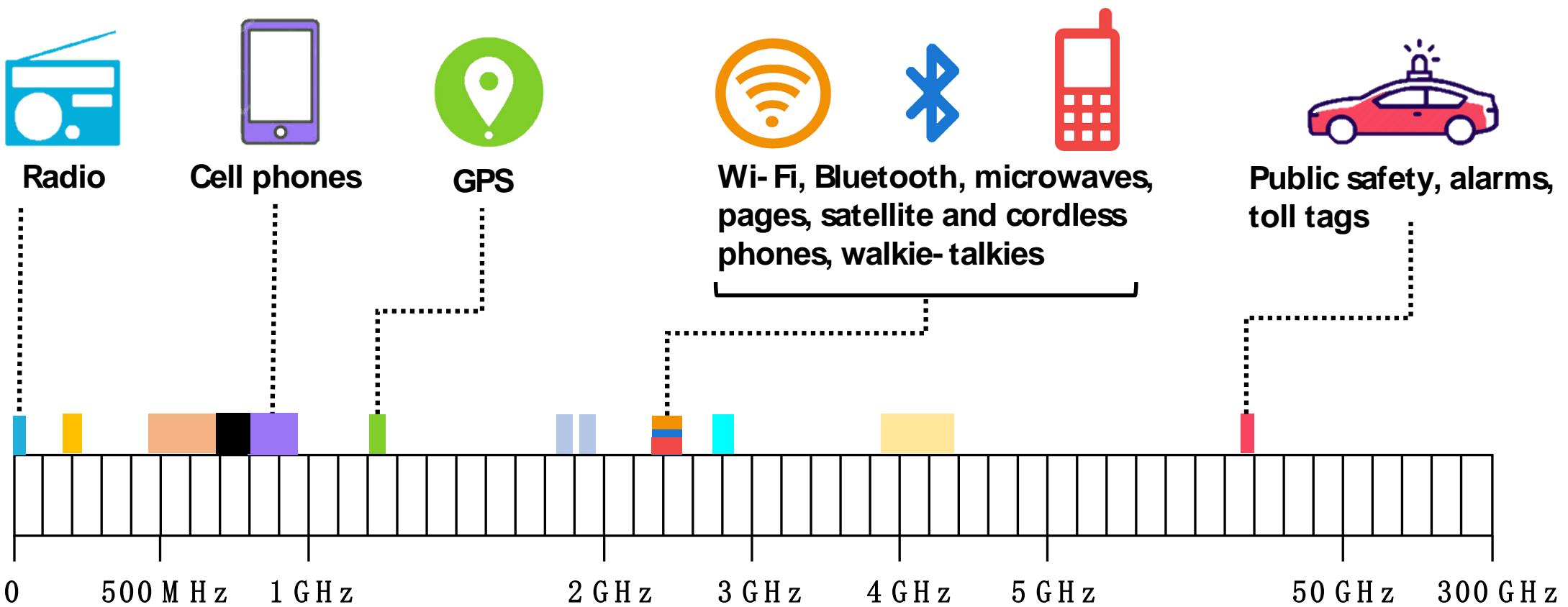


Each new generation is about optimizing the new use case of the previous generation to reduce cost and introduction of new use cases

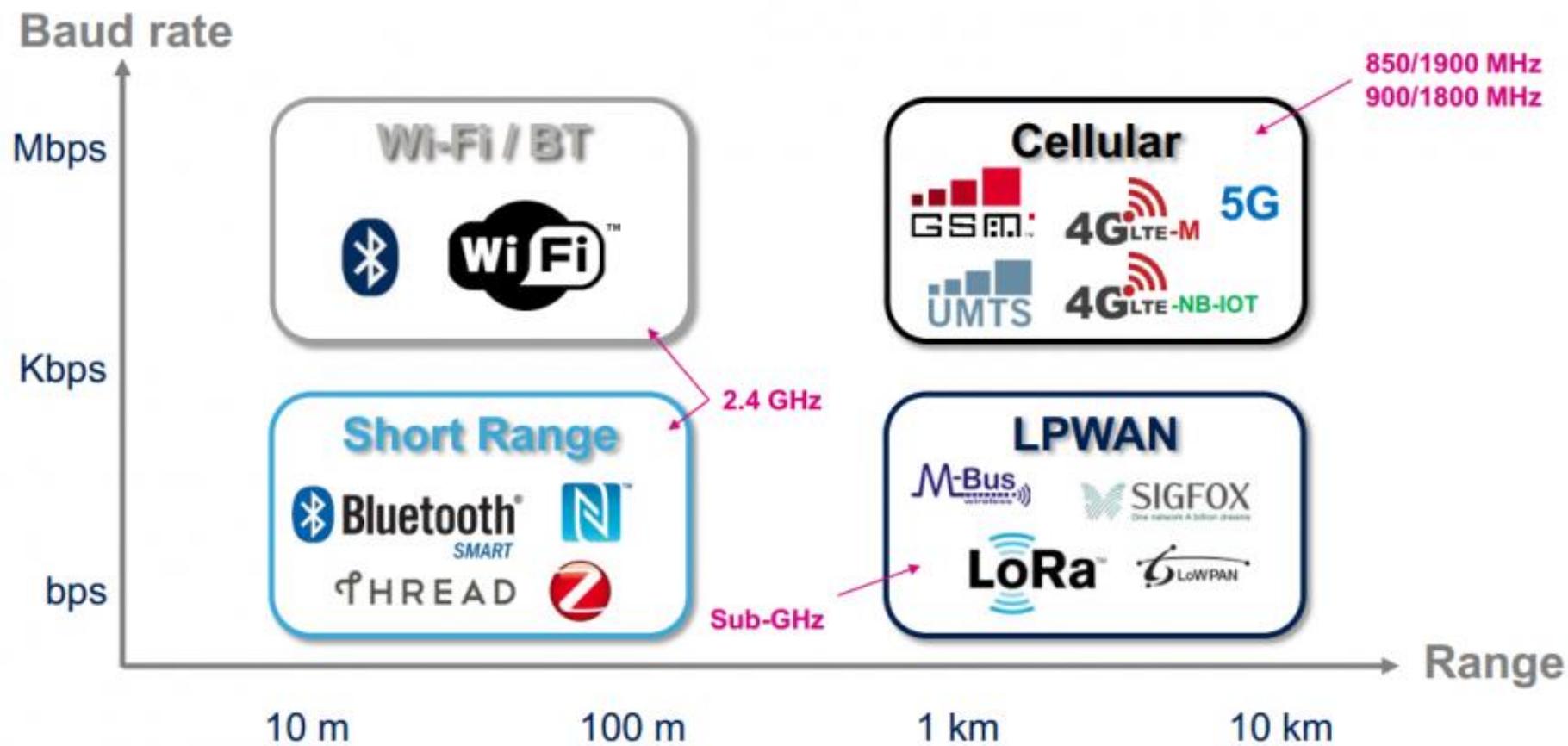
# 5G: High Frequency; MIMO



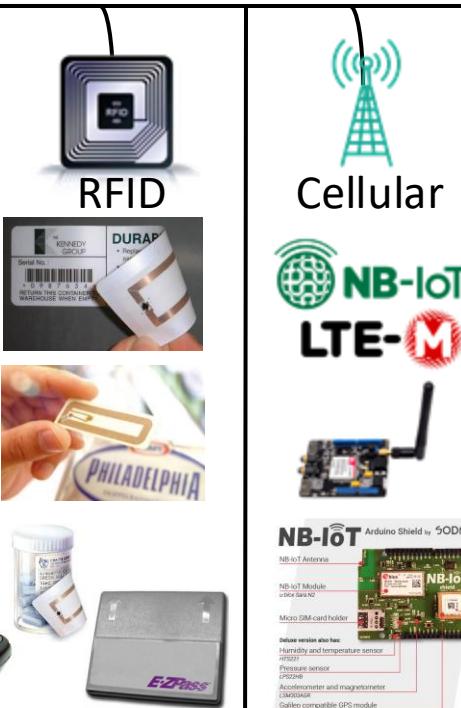
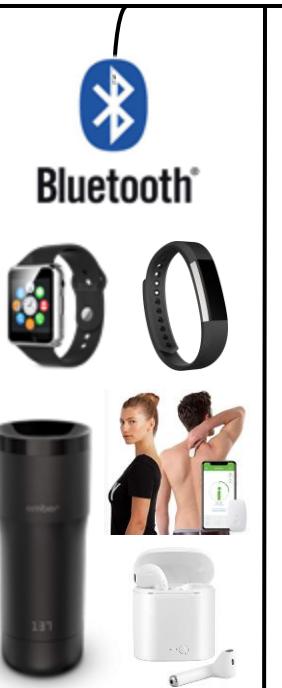
# Spectrum



# Range & Data Rate



# IoT Technologies



# Bluetooth

- Bluetooth is a short-distance wireless technology for Personal Area Networks (PAN).



# The Name of Bluetooth

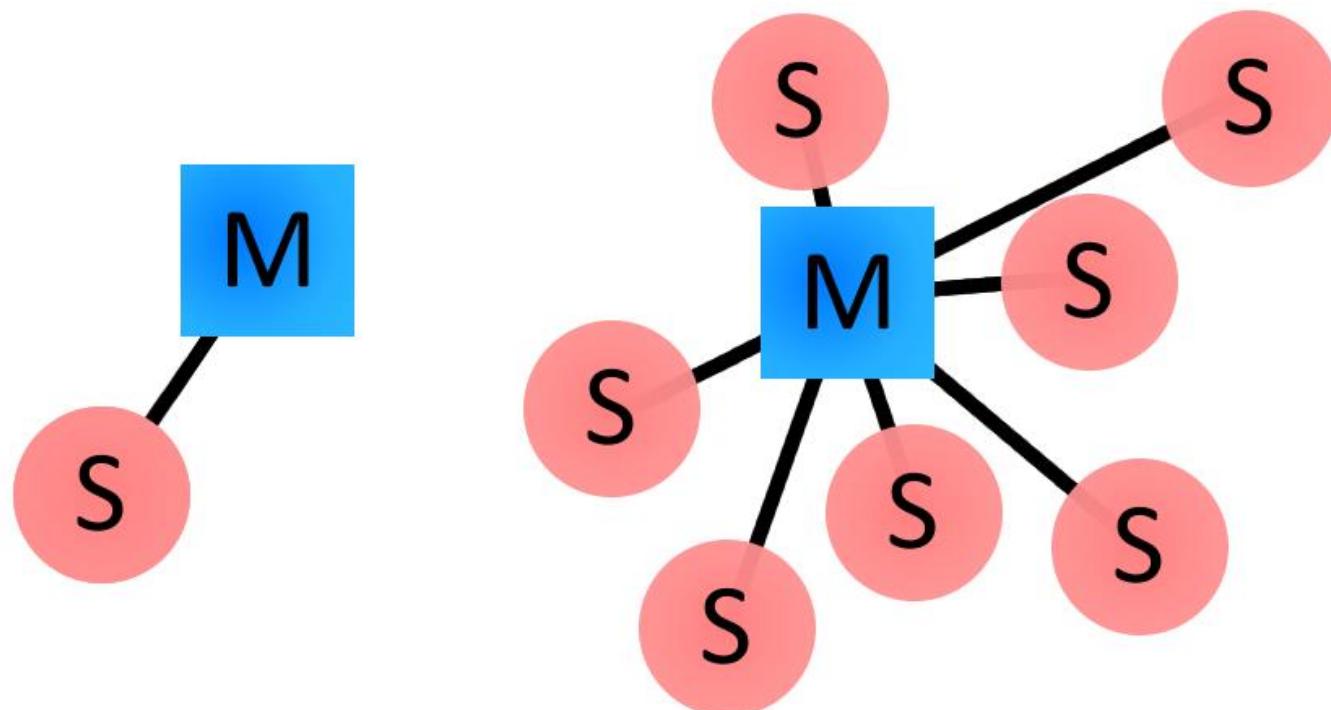
- Business-RF (Intel)
  - MC-Link (Ericsson)
  - Low Power RF (Nokia)
- Denmark King: Harold Bluetooth
    - Harald united Denmark and Norway
    - Harald thinks that mobile PC's and cellular phones should seamlessly communicate



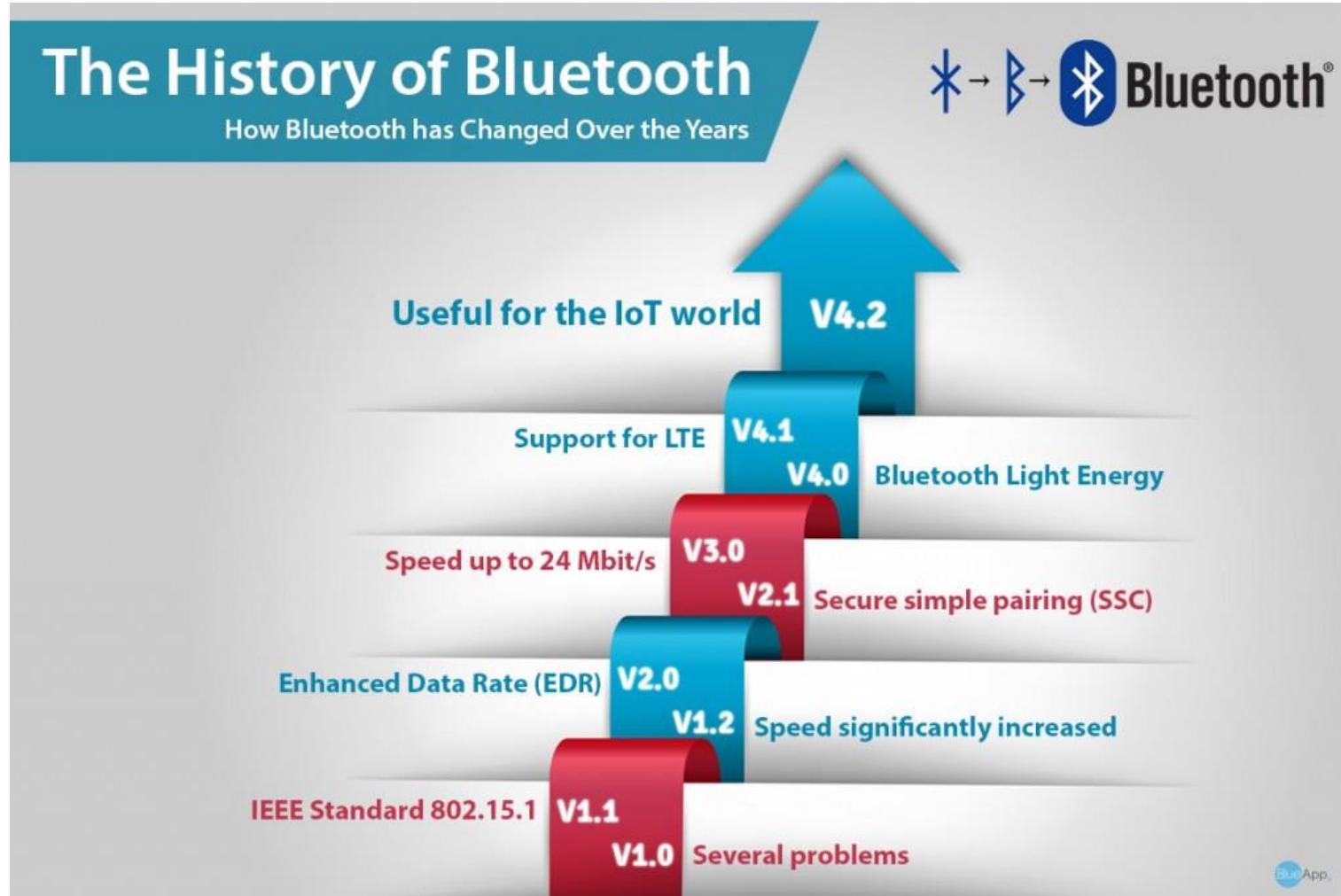
Jim Kardach

# Master and Slave Connection

- Two roles: slave and master, one master can support 7 slaves at most.



# Bluetooth Evolution



# Classic Bluetooth v.s. BLE

Standard	Classic	BLE
Frequency	2.4GHz	2.4GHz
Range	100m	> 100m
Data Rate	1 - 3Mbps	1Mbps
Latency	100ms	6ms
Current Consumption	< 30mA	< 15mA

# Bluetooth Devices

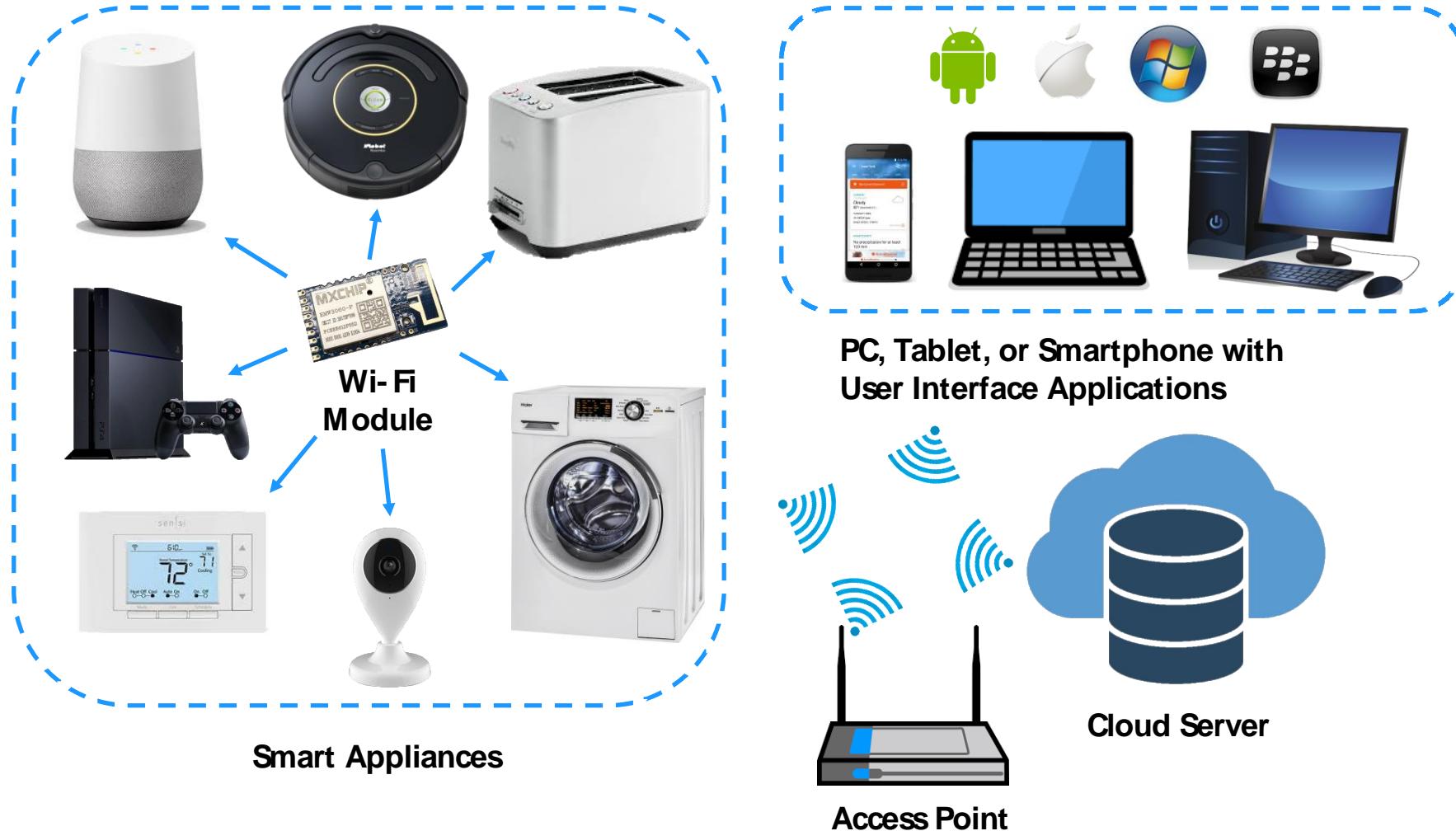


# Wi-Fi

- Wi-Fi is a generic term that refers to the IEEE 802.11 communications standard for Wireless Local Area Network (WLANs)
- (One of) the most successful wireless communication technologies
  - 30 billions of WiFi-connected devices



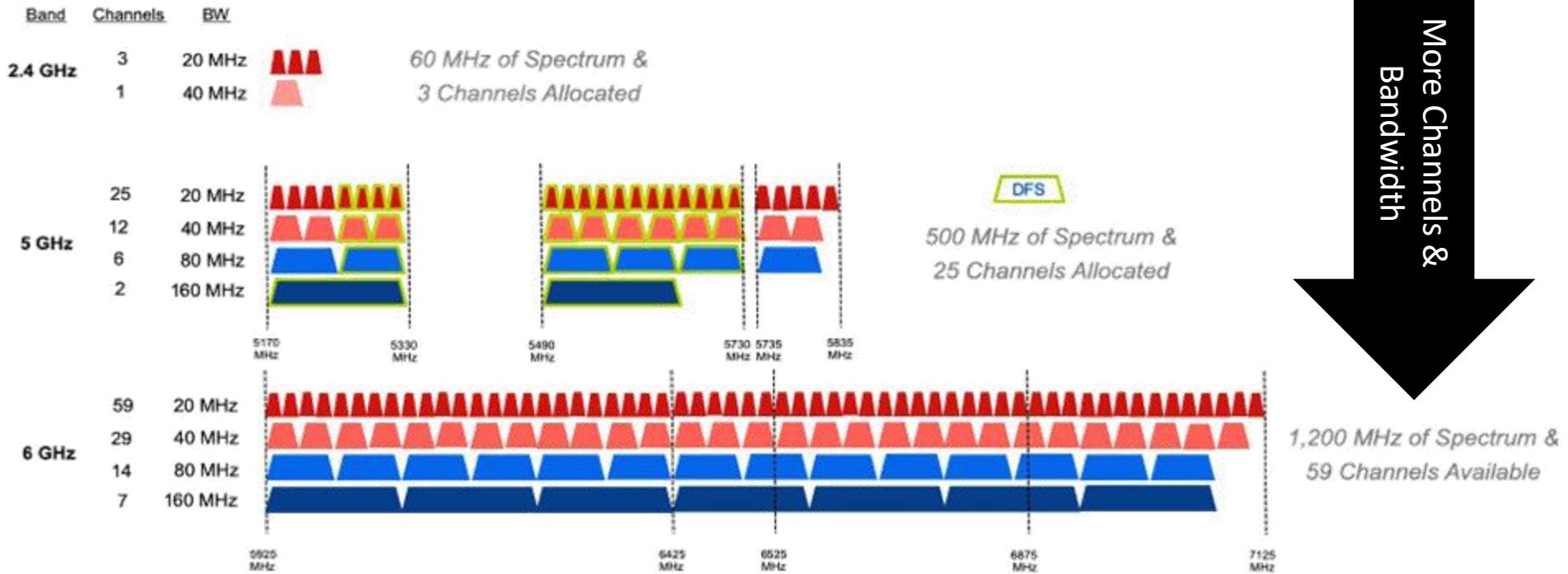
# Wi-Fi Devices



# IEEE 802.11 standard

Generation/IEEE Standard	Maximum Linkrate	Adopted	Frequency
Wi-Fi 6 (802.11ax)	600–9608 Mbit/s	2019	2.4/5 GHz 1–6 GHz ISM
Wi-Fi 5 (802.11ac)	433–6933 Mbit/s	2014	5 GHz
Wi-Fi 4 (802.11n)	72–600 Mbit/s	2009	2.4/5 GHz
802.11g	3–54 Mbit/s	2003	2.4 GHz
802.11a	1.5 to 54 Mbit/s	1999	5 GHz
802.11b	1 to 11 Mbit/s	1999	2.4 GHz

# WiFi Standards from WiFi 1 to WiFi 6



WiFi 1

More MIMO Antennas

WiFi 5/6

# 1994, CSIRO, Australia

- “I certainly had no idea where things would lead. Back then, we set out to do a wireless network at 100 megabits per second. Many people thought we had rocks in our head to try doing such a thing. We thought it really would be big, but now I look back and I'm just blown away at how big it has become.”



**John O'Sullivan**

As of April 2012, the CSIRO has earned over \$430 million in royalties and settlements arising from the use of this [patent as part of the 802.11 standards](#) with as much as a billion dollars expected after further lawsuits against other parties.

# 2002, Zigbee Alliance

- WiFi
  - High energy consumption
  - High deployment cost
- Bluetooth
  - Limited scenarios
  - Less scalable
- A **flexible wireless communication** to achieve IOT
  - Low power
  - Low data rate
  - Ad-hoc network

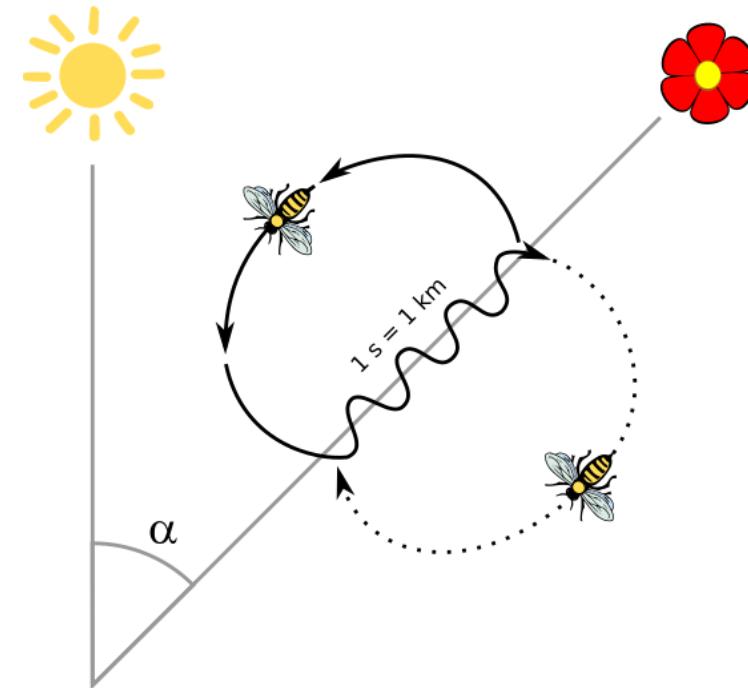
# Zigbee

- Zigbee (802.15.4) is a low-power, low data rate, low complexity and ad-hoc communication approach.



# Zigbee

- Bee dances in a zig-zag pattern. In this way, it is able to share information, such as the location, distance and direction of a newly discovered food source to its fellow colony members.

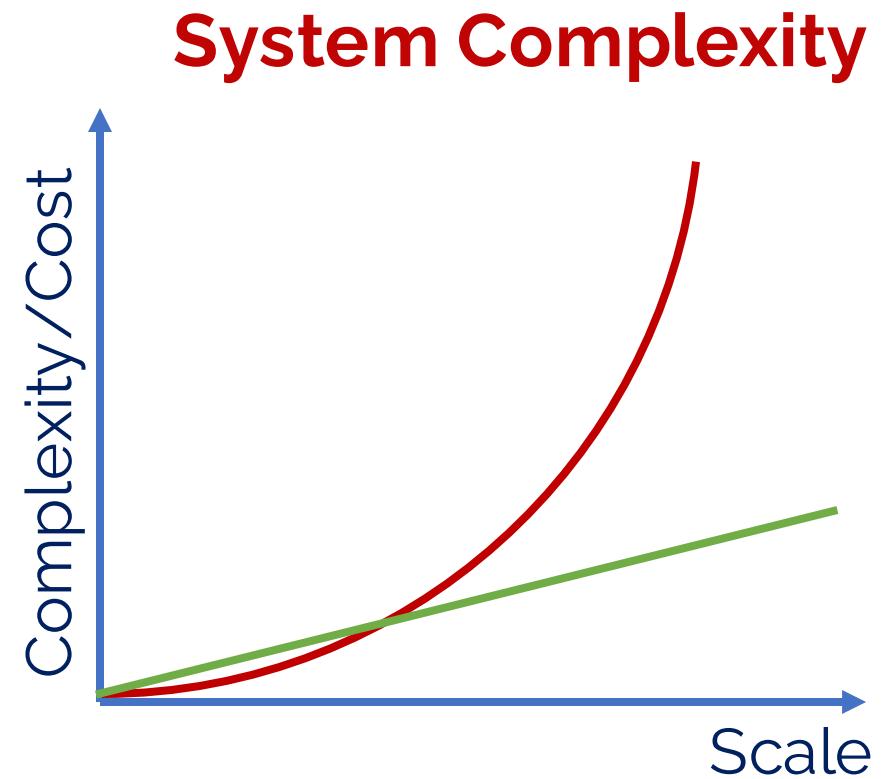


# ZigBee

- 2.4GHz(Global), 868 MHz(Europe) and 915MHz(US). Up to 250kb/s, 20kb/s and 40kb/s respectively.
- Range 10-180 meters.
- Low data transmission with 1-100 mW output power.
- At sleep mode, uW level power consumption.

# Two Big Challenges of WSNs

- Dedicated devices
  - → Wireless & Sensorless Sensing
- Power Supply (battery-powered)
  - Batteryless or Backscatter



# 1996, Special Interest Group (SIG) on Short-range Link

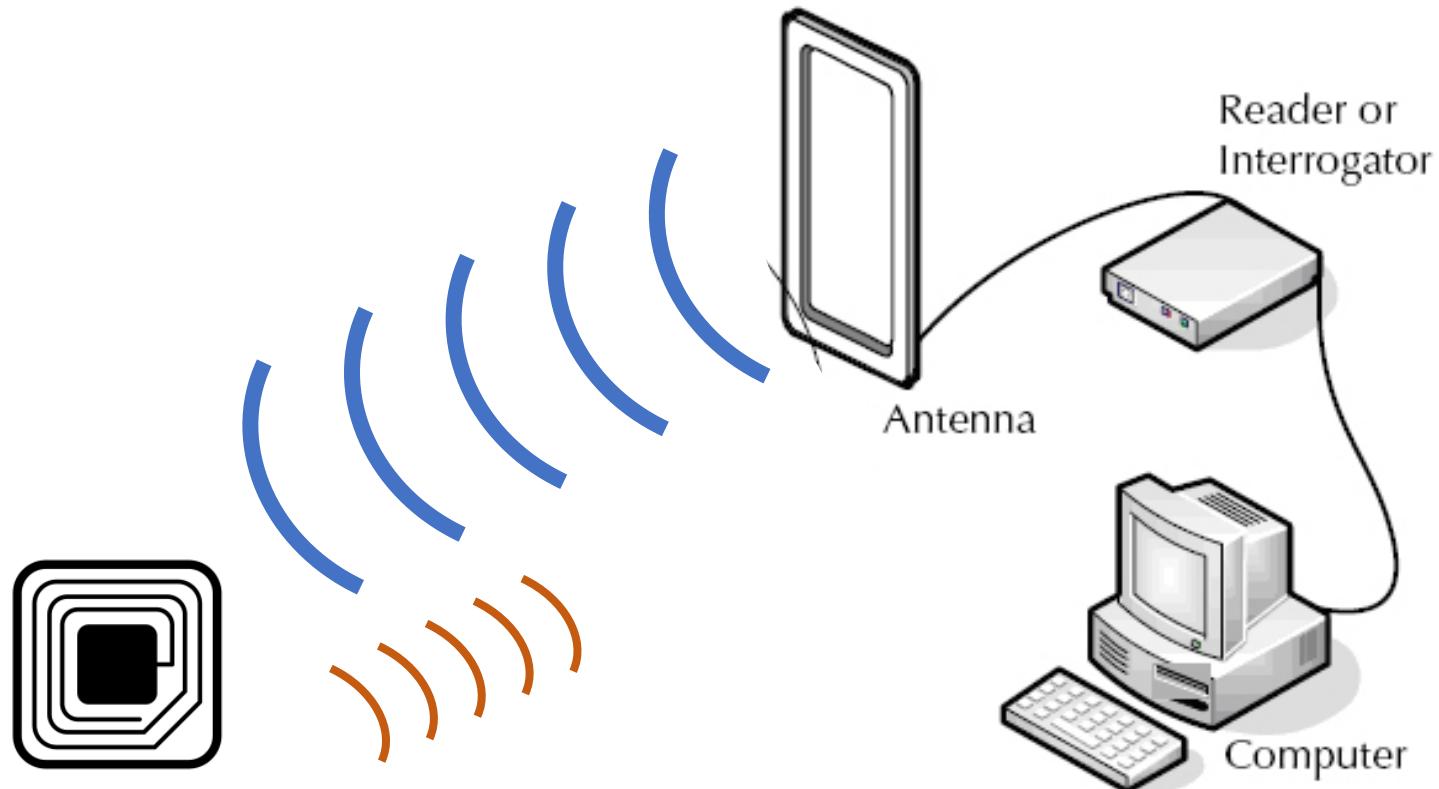
- “Power is one of the key attributes. Battery life is life. It’s the life of the product. To ignore that is totally unacceptable. You have to design things to work efficiently, but more importantly, do nothing efficiently.”



Jim Kardach, Mr. Bluetooth

# RFID: "5 cents computing"

- Radio-frequency identification



# RFID Applications



# Obtain the energy with Ambient RF Signals?



Solar Energy



Motion Energy



Thermal Energy



Wind Energy



Bioenergy



Electromagnetic  
Energy

- **RF energy is everywhere, and always available**



TV Tower



Cell Site



Radio Tower

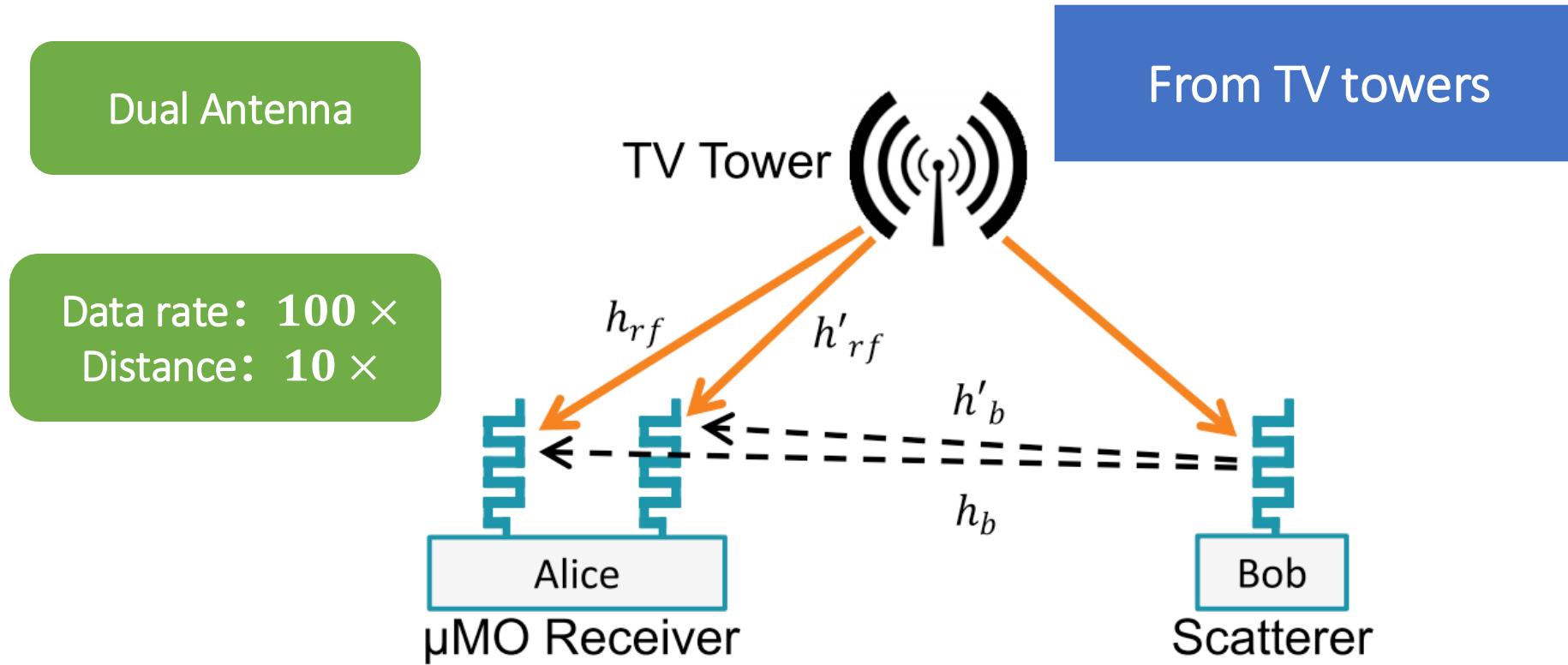


RFID Reader



AP

# Obtaining the Energy – Ambient Backscatter



Turbocharging Ambient Backscatter Communication  
Aaron N. Parks, Angli Liu, Shyamnath Gollakota, Joshua R. Smith  
(University of Washington), SIGCOMM 2014

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gX9cbxLSOkE&t=26s>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YK2j6VV7sZ0>

# LPWAN: Low Power Wide Area Network

## High-level overview of current LPWAN technologies

LPWAN technologies	Adjacent / comparative technologies	
Licensed spectrum	Unlicensed spectrum	Unlicensed spectrum
Low-power technologies that operate in the licensed spectrum	Low-power technologies that operate in the unlicensed spectrum	Technologies that are not classified as LPWAN but have similar features and/or target similar use cases. They all use the unlicensed spectrum.
 <b>NB-IoT™</b>	 <b>sigfox</b>  <b>LoRa™</b>  <b>RPMA</b>  <b>WEIGHTLESS</b>	 <b>wi-SUN</b>  <b>WIREPAS</b>
 <b>LTE-M</b>	 <b>nwave</b>  <b>Telensa</b>  <b>NB-Fi</b>	 <b>Silver Spring NETWORKS</b>  <b>Wi-Fi</b> HaLow
<b>EC-GSM-IoT</b>	 <b>СТРИЖ</b>  <b>helium</b>  <b>SAT4M2M</b>	 <b>JupiterMesh</b>  <b>DASH7</b>
<b>THINGSTREAM</b>	 <b>hiber.</b>	

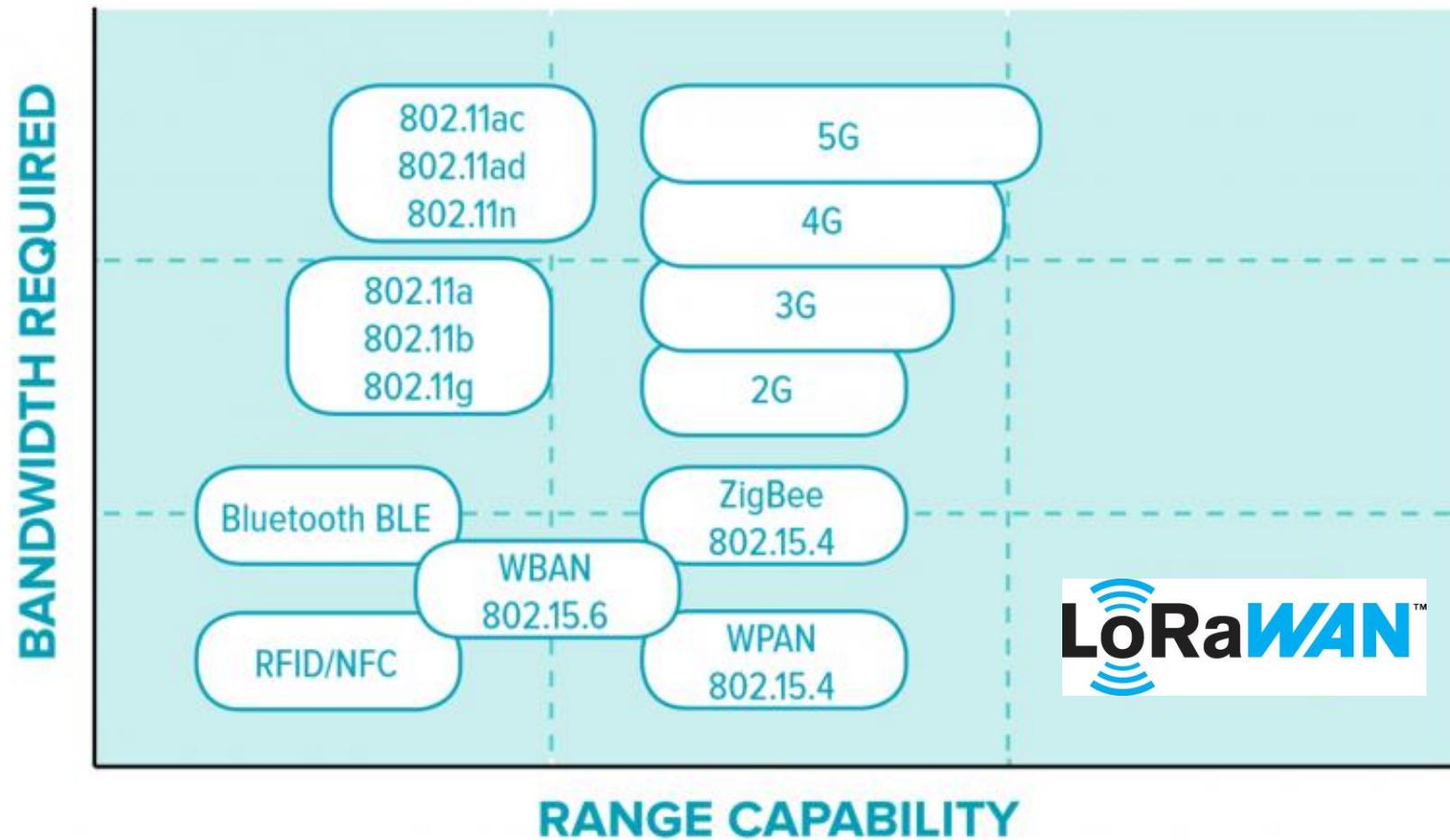
Source: IoT Analytics LPWAN Market Report 2018 - 2023

# Communication

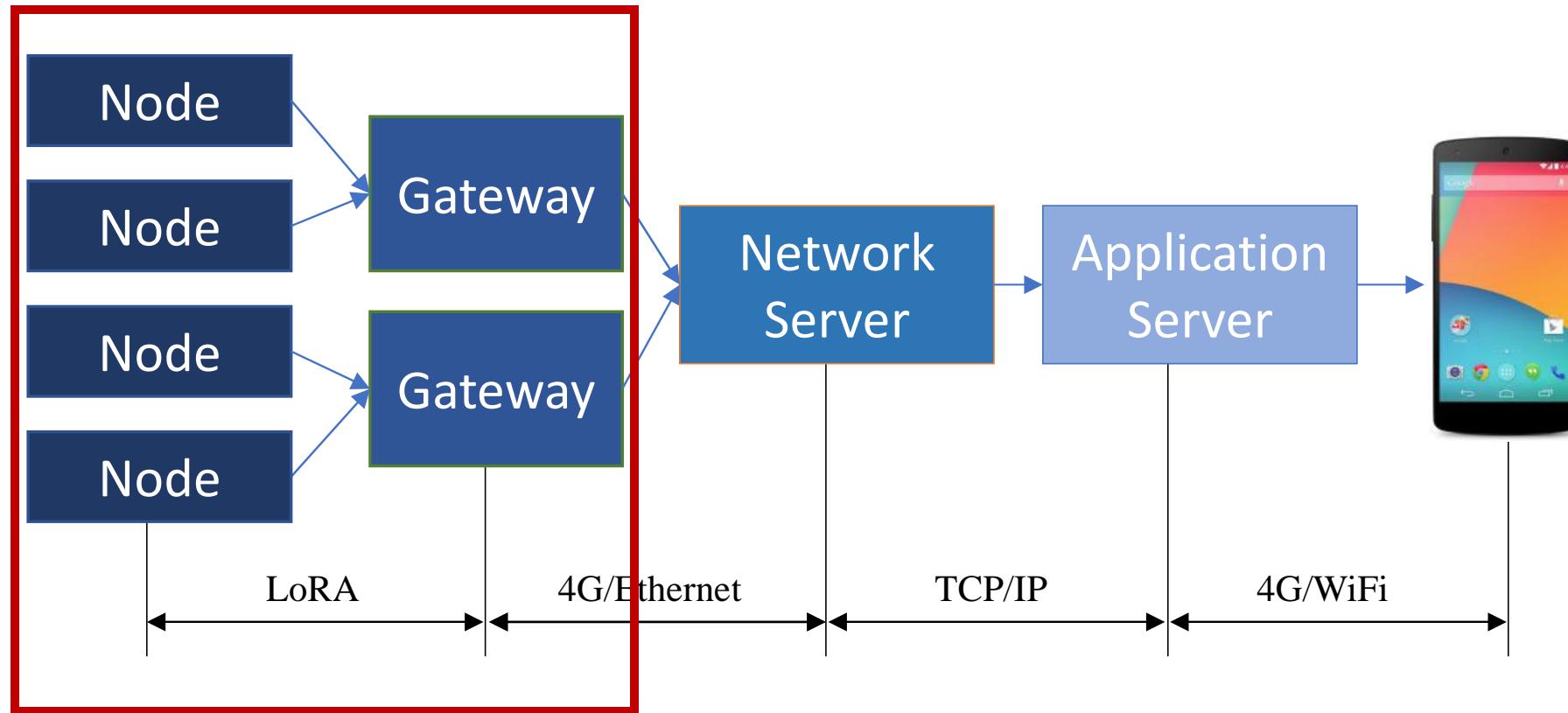
- A general view: Sending/Receiving an agreed set of symbols
- What is the computer's version of this?



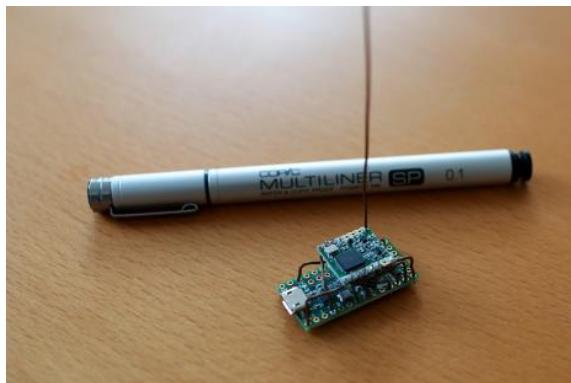
# LPWAN: Low Power Wide Area Network



# LPWAN: Low Power Wide Area Network



# LoRa (Long Range)



LoRa Node



LoRa Gateway

# LoRa (Long Range)

## Key Features of LoRa Technology



### Long Range

Connects devices up to 30 miles apart in rural areas and penetrates dense urban or deep indoor environments



### Low Power

Requires minimal energy, with prolonged battery lifetime of up to 10 years, minimizing battery replacement costs



### Secure

Features end-to-end AES128 encryption, mutual authentication, integrity protection, and confidentiality



### Standardized

Offers device interoperability and global availability of LoRaWAN networks for speedy deployment of IoT applications anywhere



### Geolocation

Enables GPS-free tracking applications, offering unique low power benefits untouched by other technologies



### Mobile

Maintains communication with devices in motion without strain on power consumption



### High Capacity

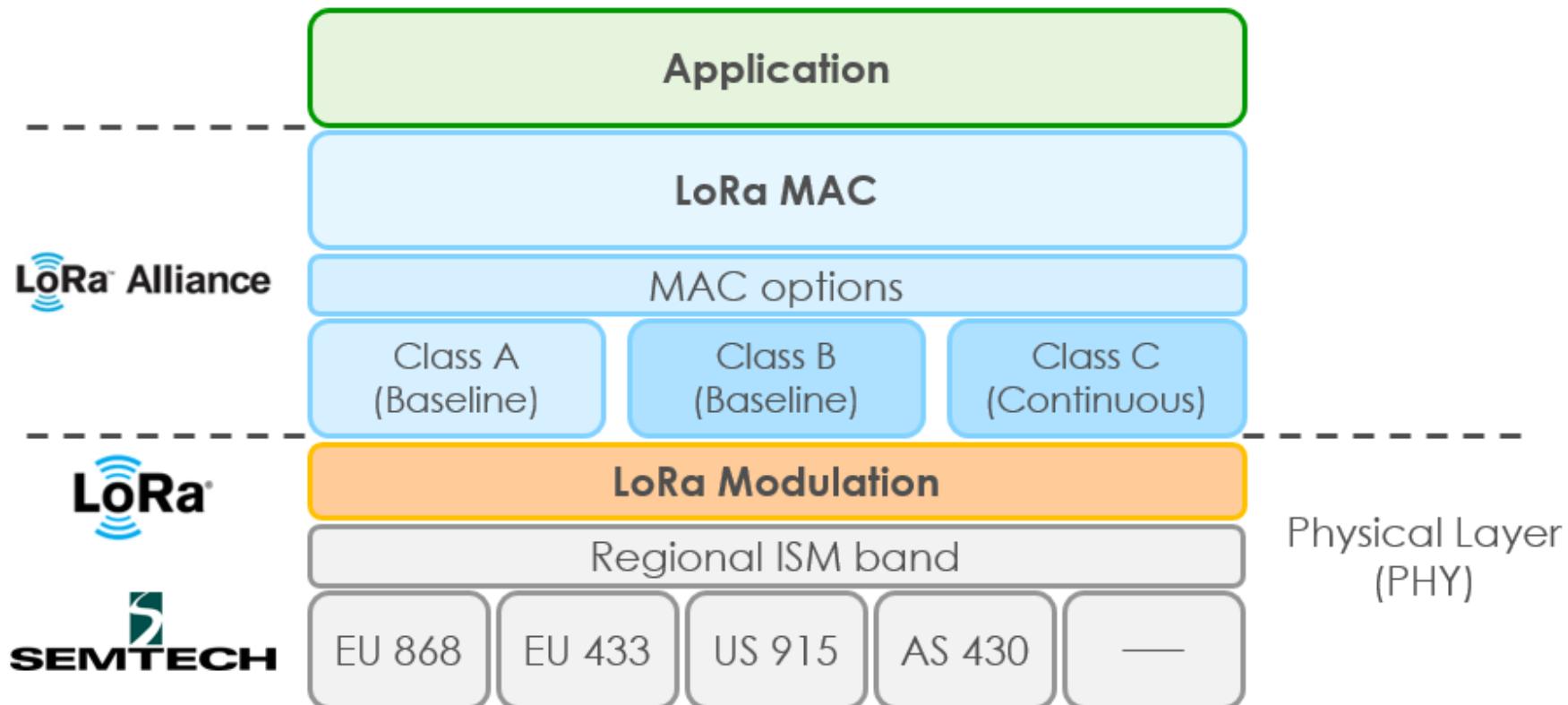
Supports millions of messages per base station, meeting the needs of public network operators serving large markets



### Low Cost

Reduces infrastructure investment, battery replacement expense, and ultimately operating expenses

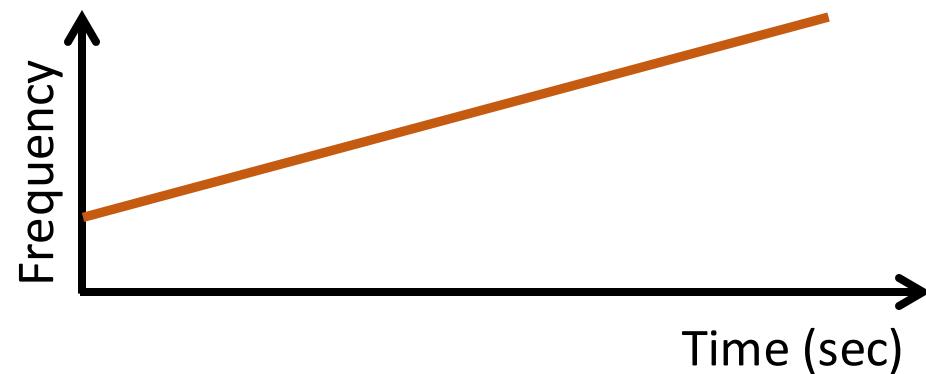
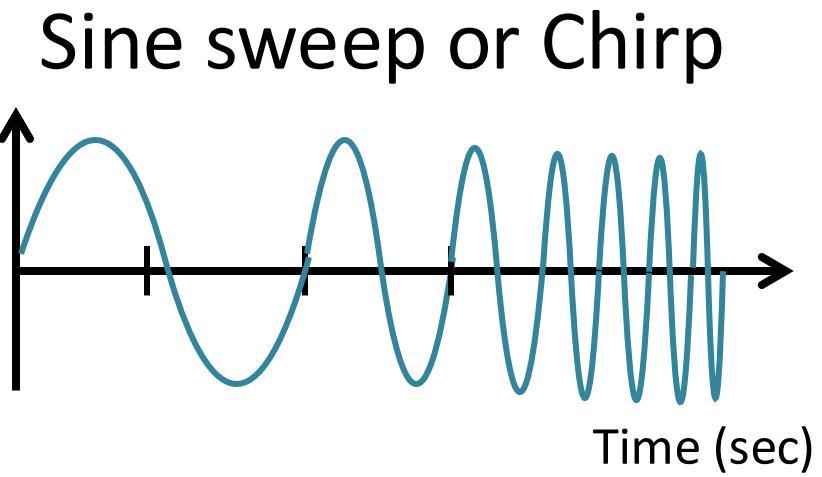
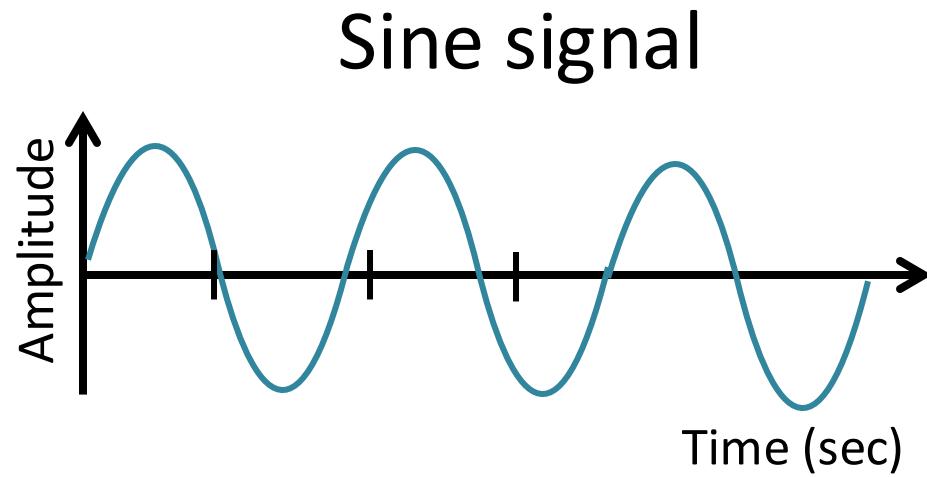
# LoRa Stack



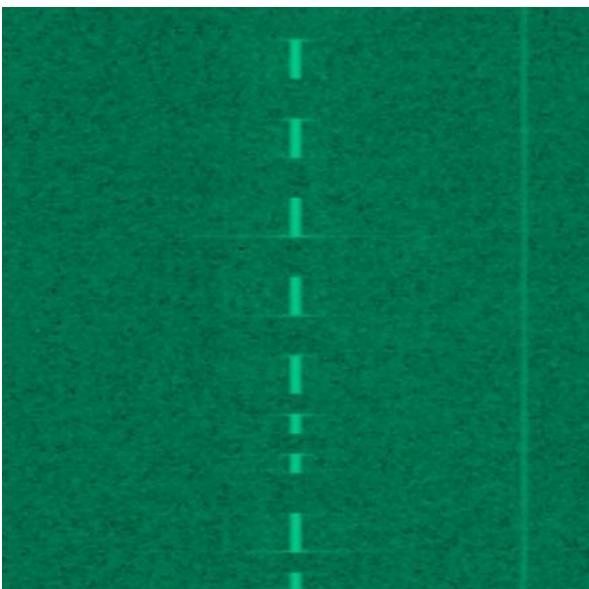
# LoRa Communication

- Utilizes unlicensed ISM bands
  - Promises kilometers of communication distances
  - And years of battery life
- Use Chirp Spread Spectrum (CSS)
  - Robust to interference, multipath, and Doppler effects
  - High channel capacity: simultaneous transmissions on a single channel

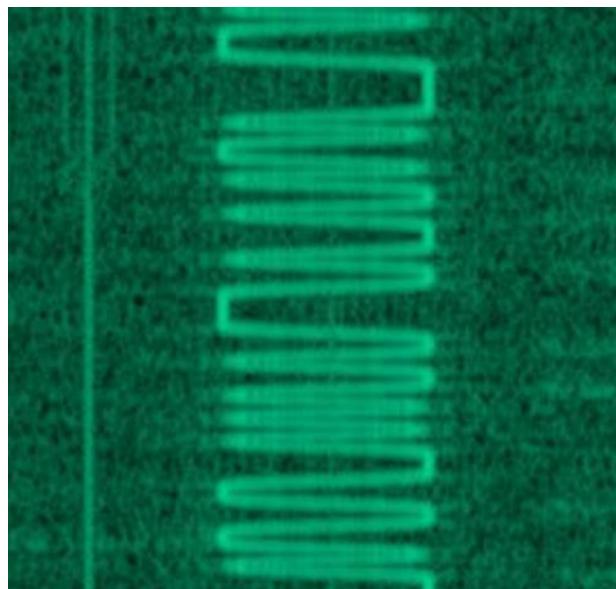
# LoRa: Chirp Spread Spectrum (css)



# Modulation



On-Off Keying!



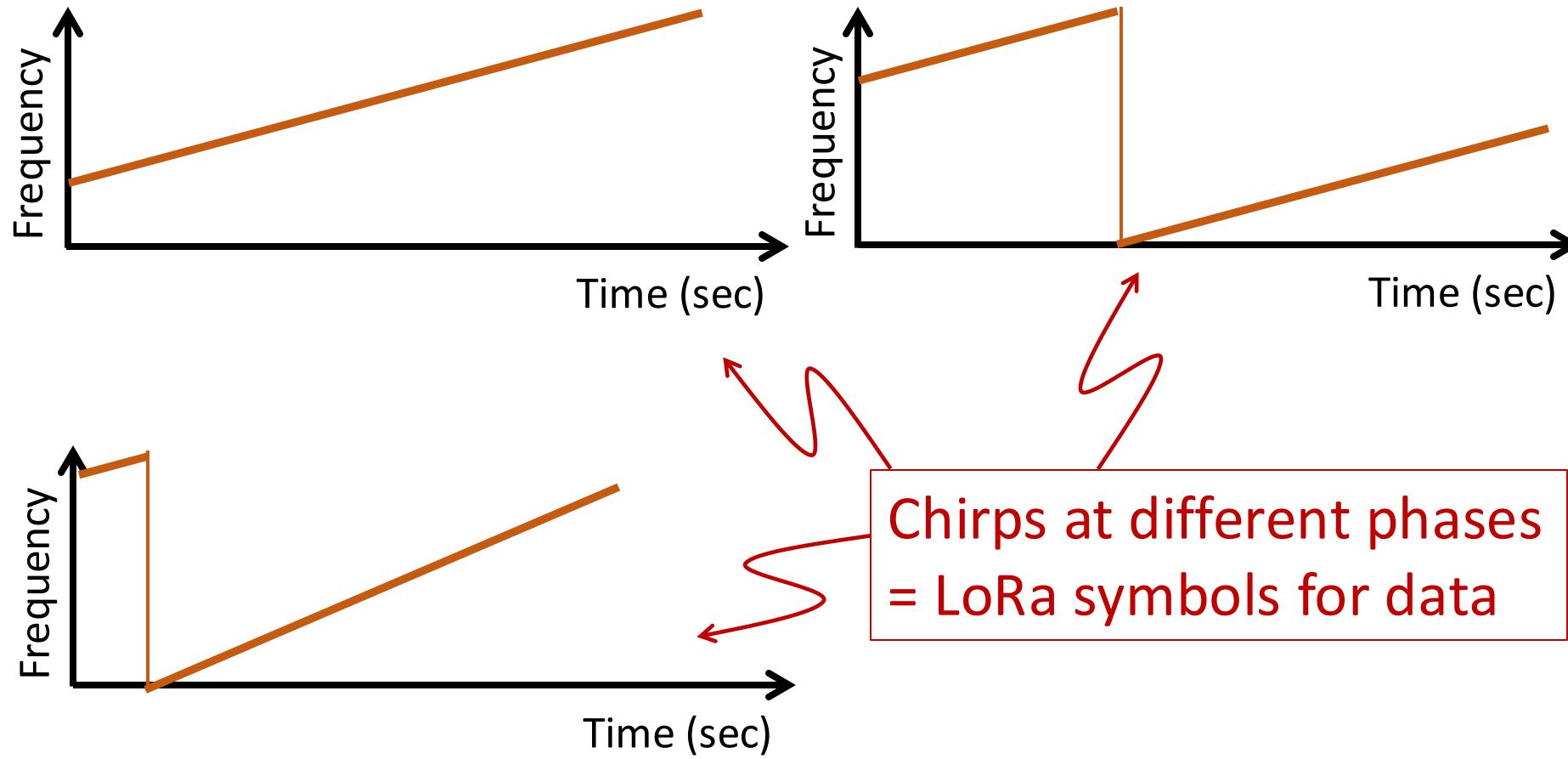
Frequency-shift Keying!



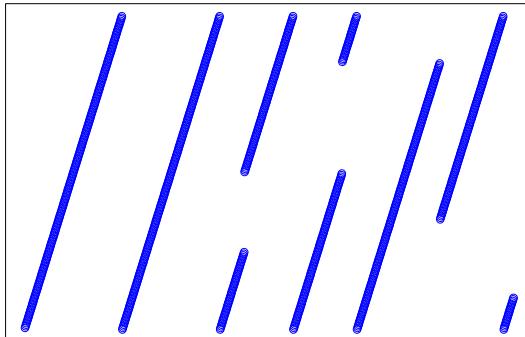
LoRa!

Source: MaD Knight

# LoRa: CSS Communication

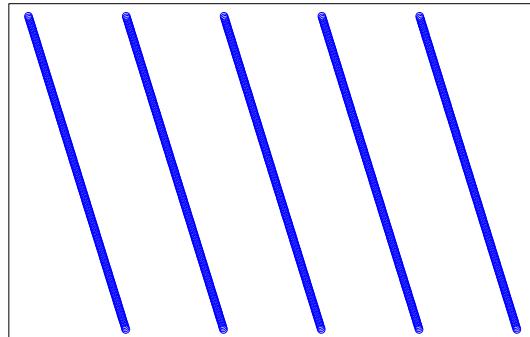


# LoRa Demodulation

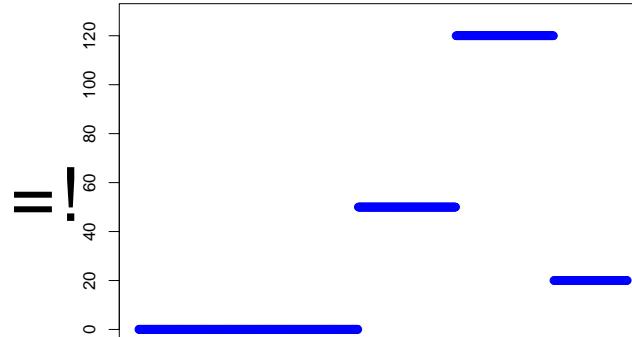


Received Lora signal!

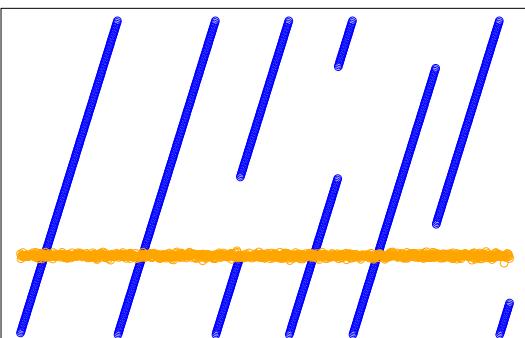
x!



Inverse chirp!

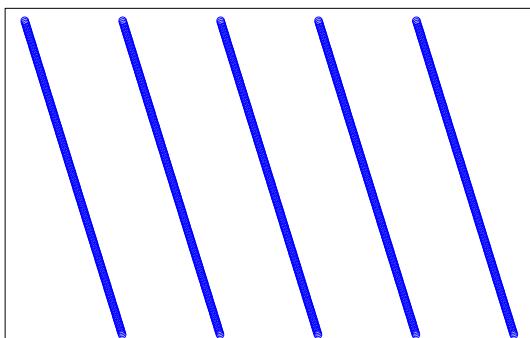


Decoded symbols!

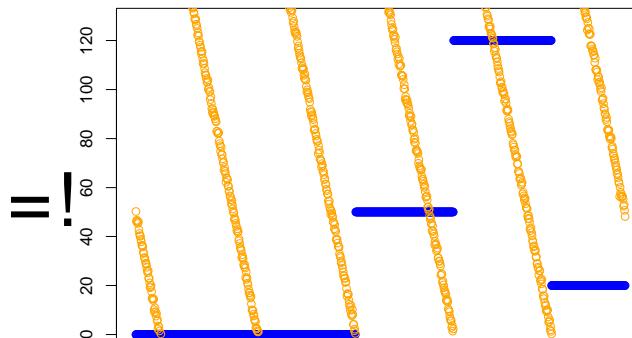


Received Lora signal !  
Narrowband interferer!

x!

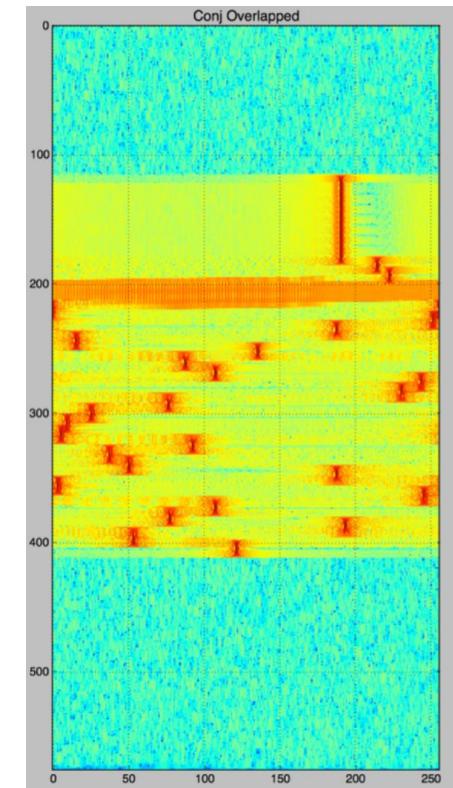
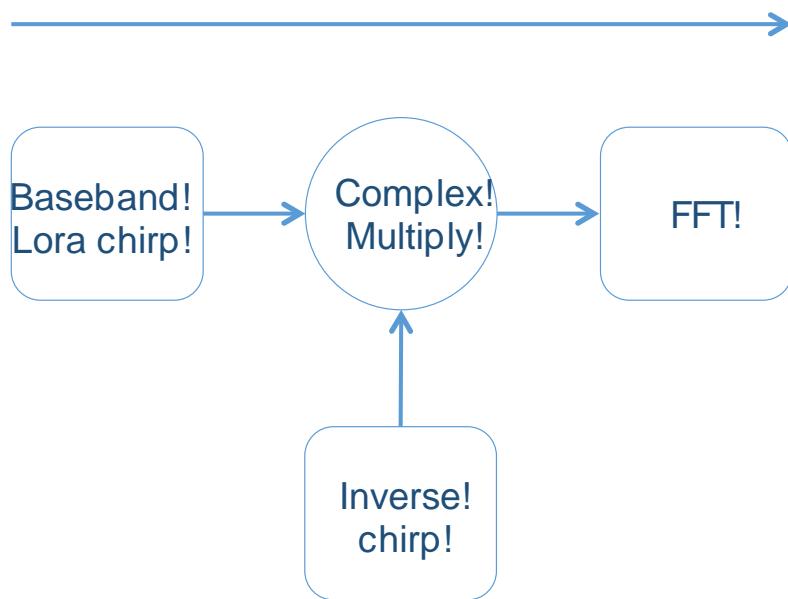
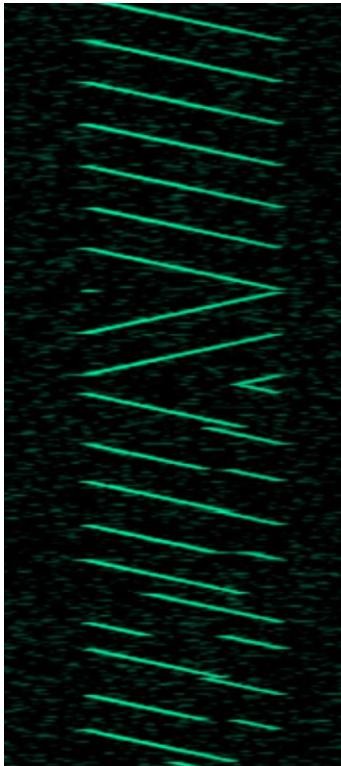


Inverse chirp!



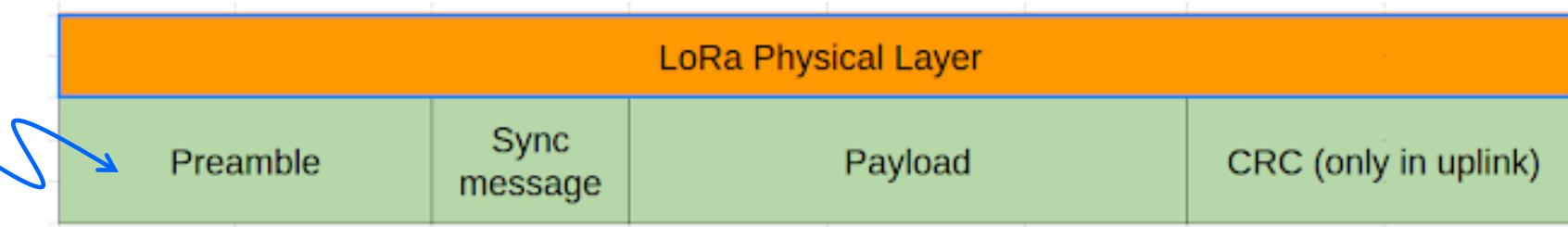
Decoded symbols!

# LoRa Demodulation

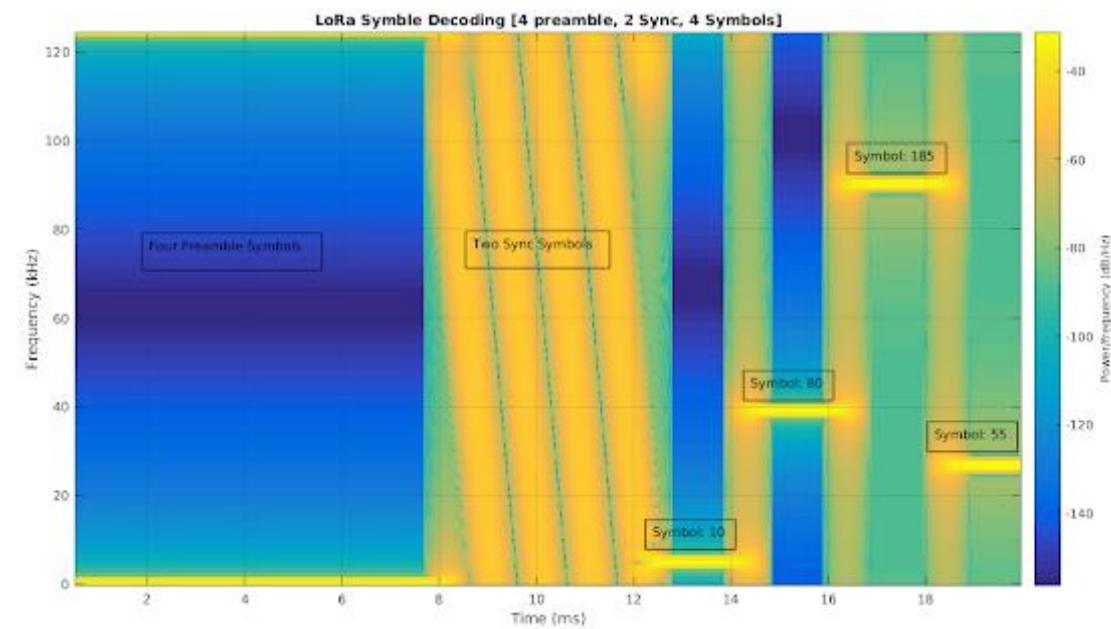
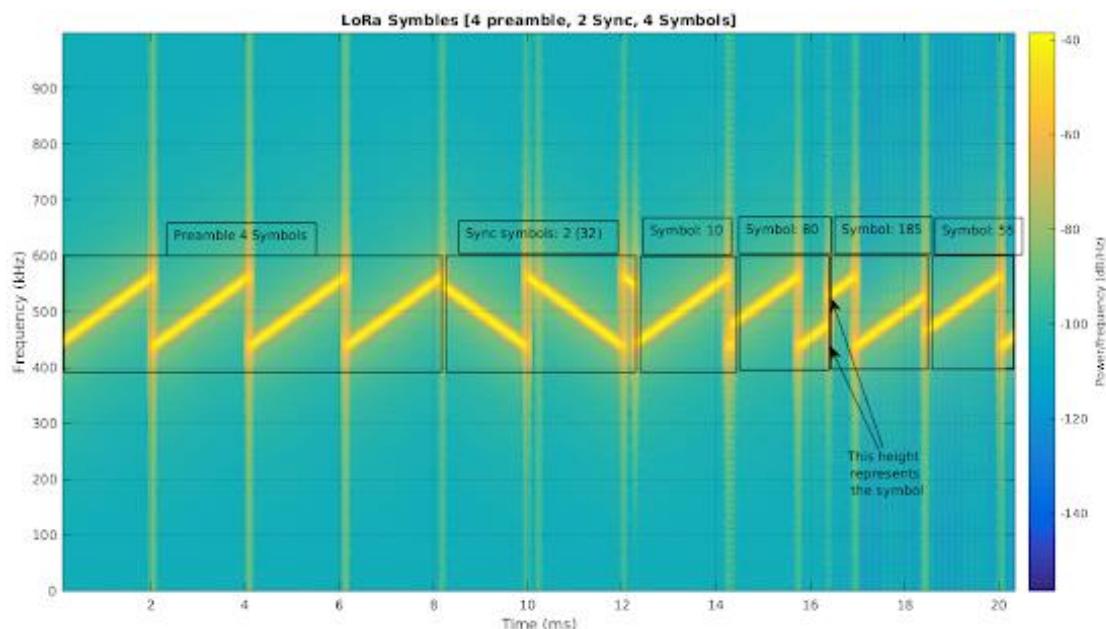


# LoRa Decoding

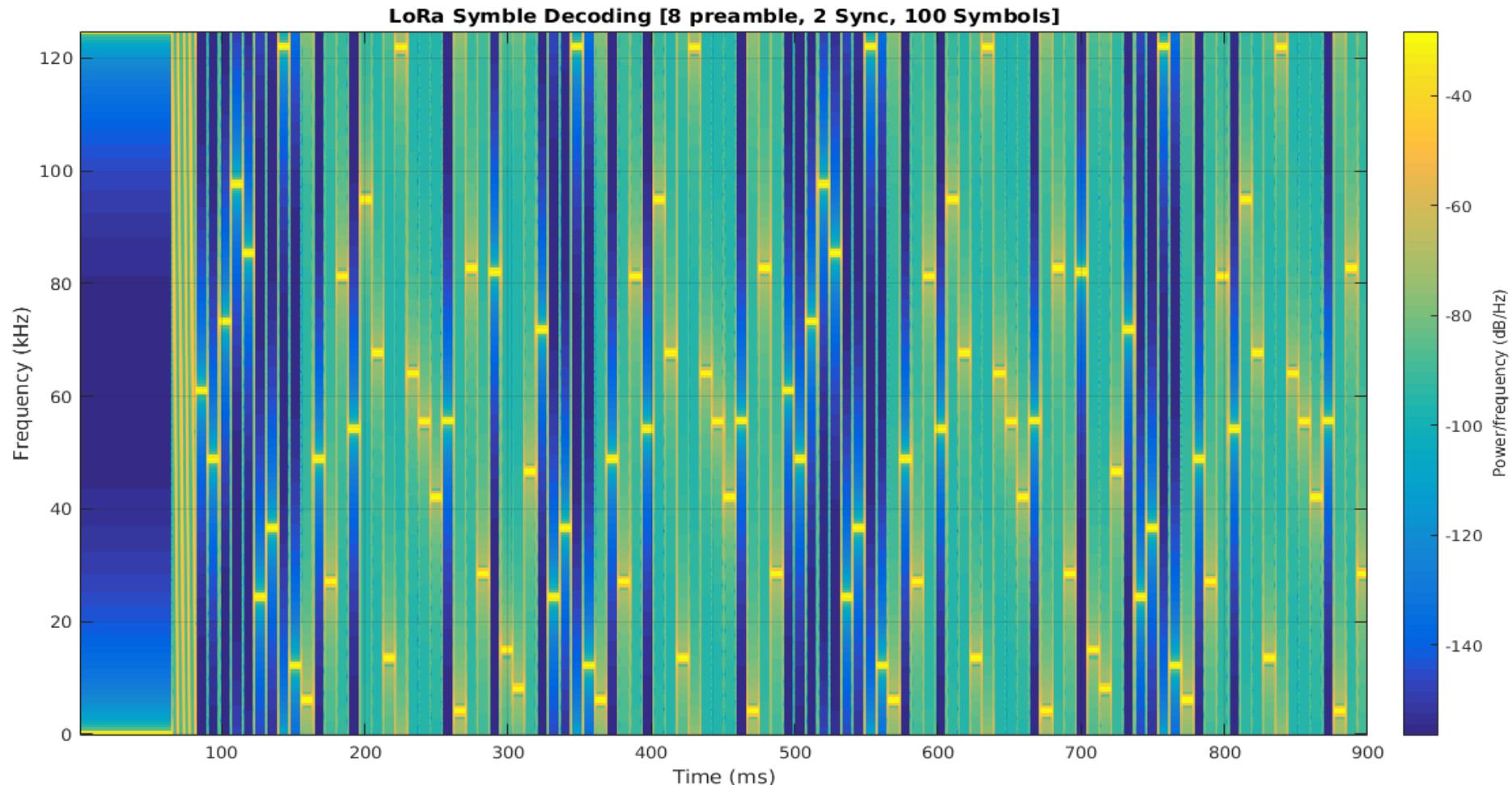
Used to detect  
the LoRa signals



Used to detect the starting  
of the LoRa Payload.

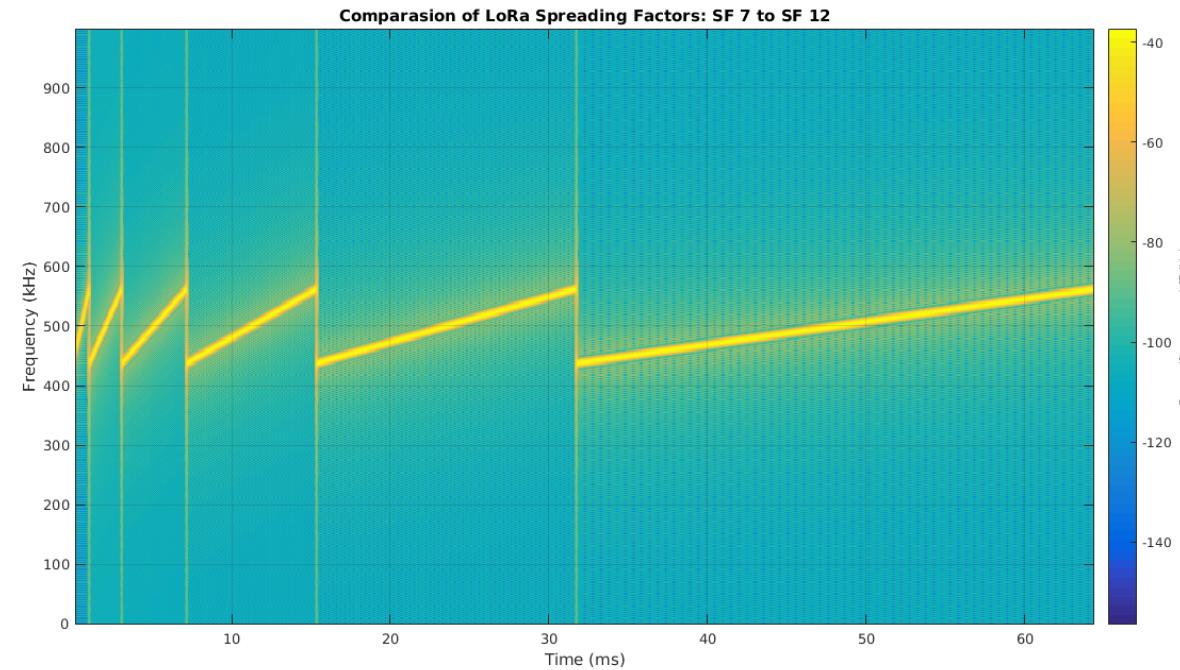


# An example of 100 symbols

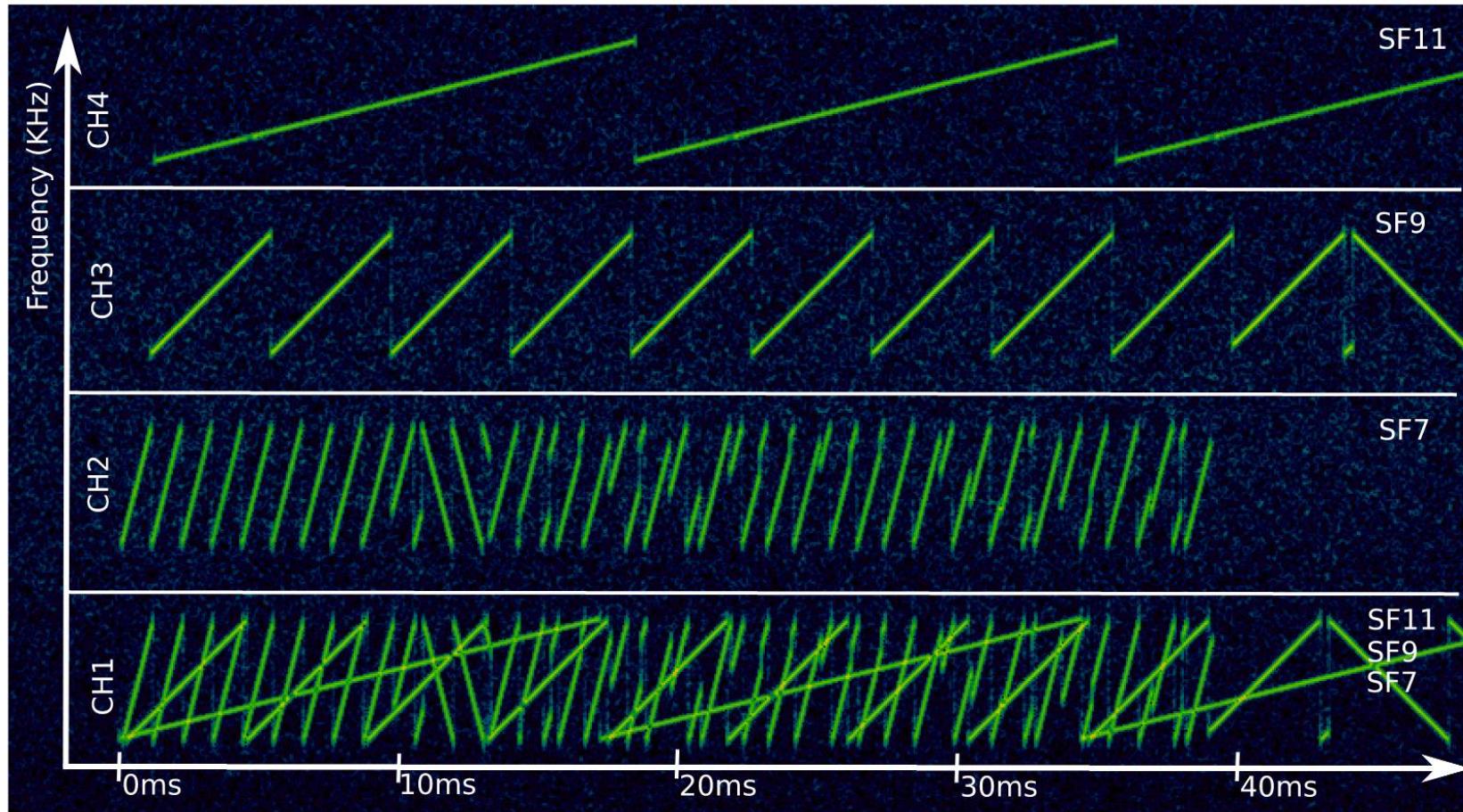


# LoRa Spreading Factor (SF)

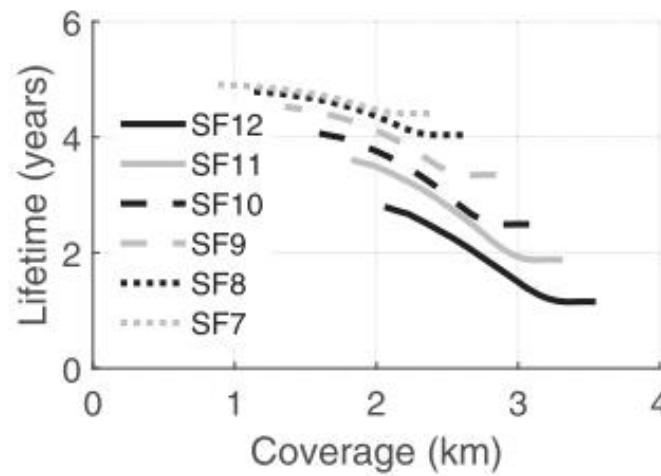
- SF determines the speed of a chirp.
- The speed of a single chirp equals approximately  $2^{\text{SF}}$ .
- LoRa uses SF of 7 to 12
  - (Given fixed bw and coding rate) Lower SF -> faster chirps, higher data rates, lower power, shorter range, lower Rx sensitivity (higher min SNR)
  - Doubling the bandwidth also doubles the bit rate for a fixed SF and coding rate.



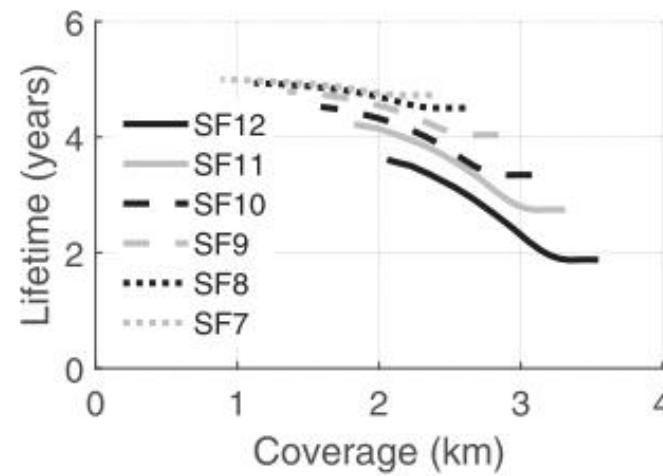
# Concurrent transmission of LoRa



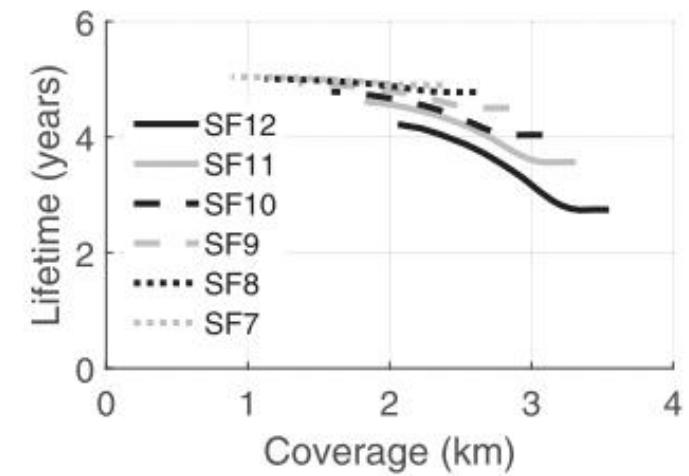
# LoRa Performance in Reality



(a) Inter-packet delay of 15 minutes.



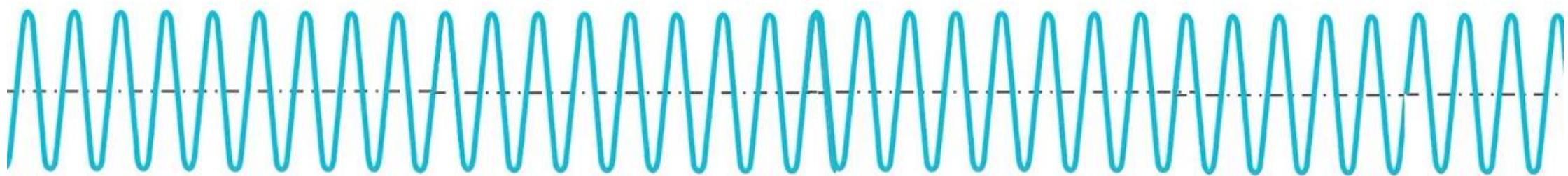
(b) Inter-packet delay of 30 minutes.



(c) Inter-packet delay of 60 minutes.

Fig. 17. Lifetime and coverage of all settings for PRR of 0.7 in NLoS environment. The skyline of all curves in each figure is the optimal settings for the given inter-packet delay.

Jansen C. Liando, Amalinda Gamage, Agustinus W. Tengourtius, and Mo Li. 2019. Known and Unknown Facts of LoRa: Experiences from a Large-scale Measurement Study. ACM Trans. Sen. Netw. 15, 2, Article 16 (May 2019). <https://doi.org/10.1145/3293534>



# Shannon-Hartley theorem

- Shannon-Hartley theorem for channel capacity:

$$C = B * \log_2 \left( 1 + \frac{S}{N} \right) \rightarrow \frac{C}{B} \propto \frac{S}{N}$$

Where:

C = channel capacity (bit/s)

B = channel bandwidth (Hz)

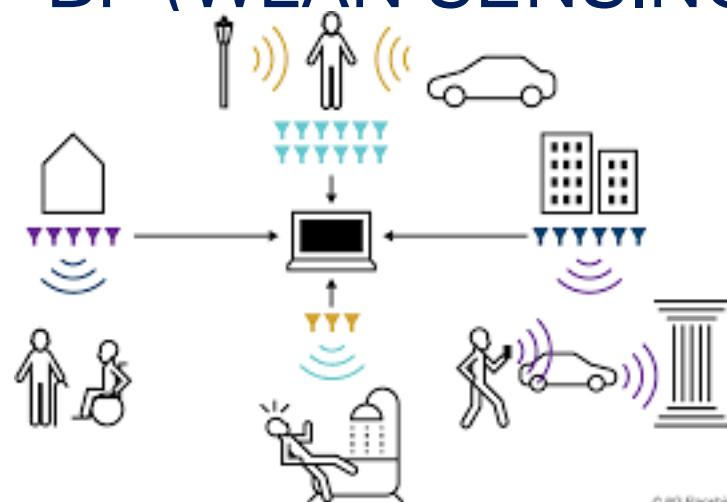
S = average received signal power (Watts)

N = average noise or interference power (Watts)

S/N = signal to noise ratio (SNR) expressed as a linear power ratio

# Wireless Sensing

- The next big thing for WiFi is not about communication or networking...
- It is about sensing!
- The world's largest sensing network!
- IEEE P802.11bf - TASK GROUP BF (WLAN SENSING)



© iSAC Flagship

# Integrated Sensing and Communication

- Clarke's Law #3: Any sufficiently advanced technology is indistinguishable from magic.
- Clarke's Law #1: When a distinguished but elderly scientist states that something is possible, he is almost certainly right. When he states that something is impossible, he is very probably wrong.



# Summary

- Why do we learn wireless networks?
  - Understand how the things we use everyday work
  - Learn about underlying technologies for IoT data acquisition and transportation
  - Gain knowledge for various design choices for IoT systems
    - What wireless solutions to choose?
    - Data kept at local (the IoT/Edge) or on cloud? How much?
  - Warm up for wireless sensing

# Questions?

- Thank you!

