

Access Networks



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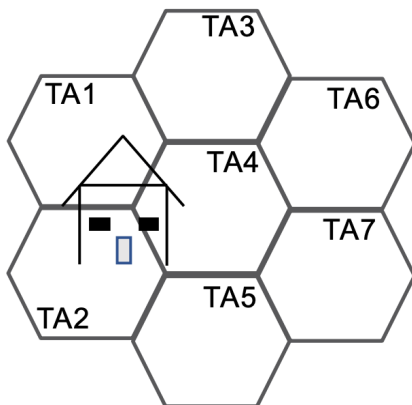
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▼ Contents

Before presenting radio access technology, remember that 5G aims to close the gap between fixed and mobile connections in a concept called fixed mobile convergence.

There are a few ways that 5G is changing the way we think of access networks.

- Fixed-mobile convergence; while we call a WiFi router a fixed access point, 5G works toward enabling hand off from mobile network antenna connections to WiFi routers.
- mobility on demand: the 5G mobile network core is designed to handle mobile devices, but can be used for devices with
 - high mobility, like high speed trains and drones, that move between cells and tracking areas very rapidly.
 - medium mobility, like mobile phones.
 - low mobility, like fixed wireless access (FWA) devices that should only be able to function in a customer's house, which will likely only be in one, or a few cells or tracking areas.



- no mobility devices, including devices that do not use radio interfacing but do transport data through the 5G core.
- Integrated access and backhaul; the connection from a gNB to the core (backhaul) does not need to be via cables to data centers. A radio connection from one radio tower to another can serve as part of the backhaul connection.

