



Unit VI

Long Term Evolution of 3GPP

Syllabus

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Introduction

In chapter 2 we discussed about 2G (GSM , GPRS) and 3G (UMTS) networks. This chapter focuses on 4G network architecture LTE (Long Term Evolution). The chapter discusses detailed system architecture and other system aspects of Long Term Evolution (LTE). With LTE providing much higher data rate and low latency, it is also important that it supports voice transmission. VoLTE is a technology that transmits Voice over LTE network. Also Self Organizing Networks (SON) which supports dynamic configuration of LTE base stations (eNB) to automate the human efforts for setting up network has been discussed.

6.1 Long Term Evolution : Overview

6.1.1 LTE System Overview

- 3GPP stands for Third Generation Partnership Project.
- Under 3GPP, widely used 3G standards UMTS WCDMA/HSPA were developed.
- LTE (Long Term Evolution) is the 4G successor to the 3G UMTS system.
- LTE Provides much higher data speeds, low latency and greatly improved performance as well as lower operating costs.
- LTE came into market around in 2010. Initial deployments gave little improvement over 3G HSPA and were sometimes treated as 3.5G or 3.99G.
- Later the full capability of LTE was realized. It provided a full 4G level of performance.
- The first deployments were simply known as LTE, but later deployments were designated 4G LTE Advanced.

6.1.2 Evolution from UMTS to LTE

- Since the inception of cell phone technologies, many mobile generations have been seen.
- The first generation was analog (FM) technology, which is no longer available.
- The second generation (2G) brought digital technology into this. Multiple incompatible 2G standards were developed. Only two of them, GSM and IS-95A CDMA, have survived.
- Next, the third generation (3G) standards came into market. Again, multiple standards were developed, mainly WCDMA by the 3GPP and cdma 2000 by Qualcomm. Both have survived and are still used today.
- The 3G standards were continually updated into what is known as 3.5G.

- WCDMA was upgraded to HSPA, and cdma 2000 was expanded with 1xRTT EV-DO releases A and B. Both are still widely deployed.
- The Third Generation Partnership Project (3GPP), developed the widely used UMTS WCDMA/HSPA 3G standards. As a 4G successor to WCDMA, 3GPP developed Long-Term Evolution (LTE). Thus, LTE was created as an upgrade to the 3G standards.
- Release 8 of LTE was completed in 2010, followed by release 9. Now, release 10 is also available which defines LTE-Advanced (LTE-A) is also under development.

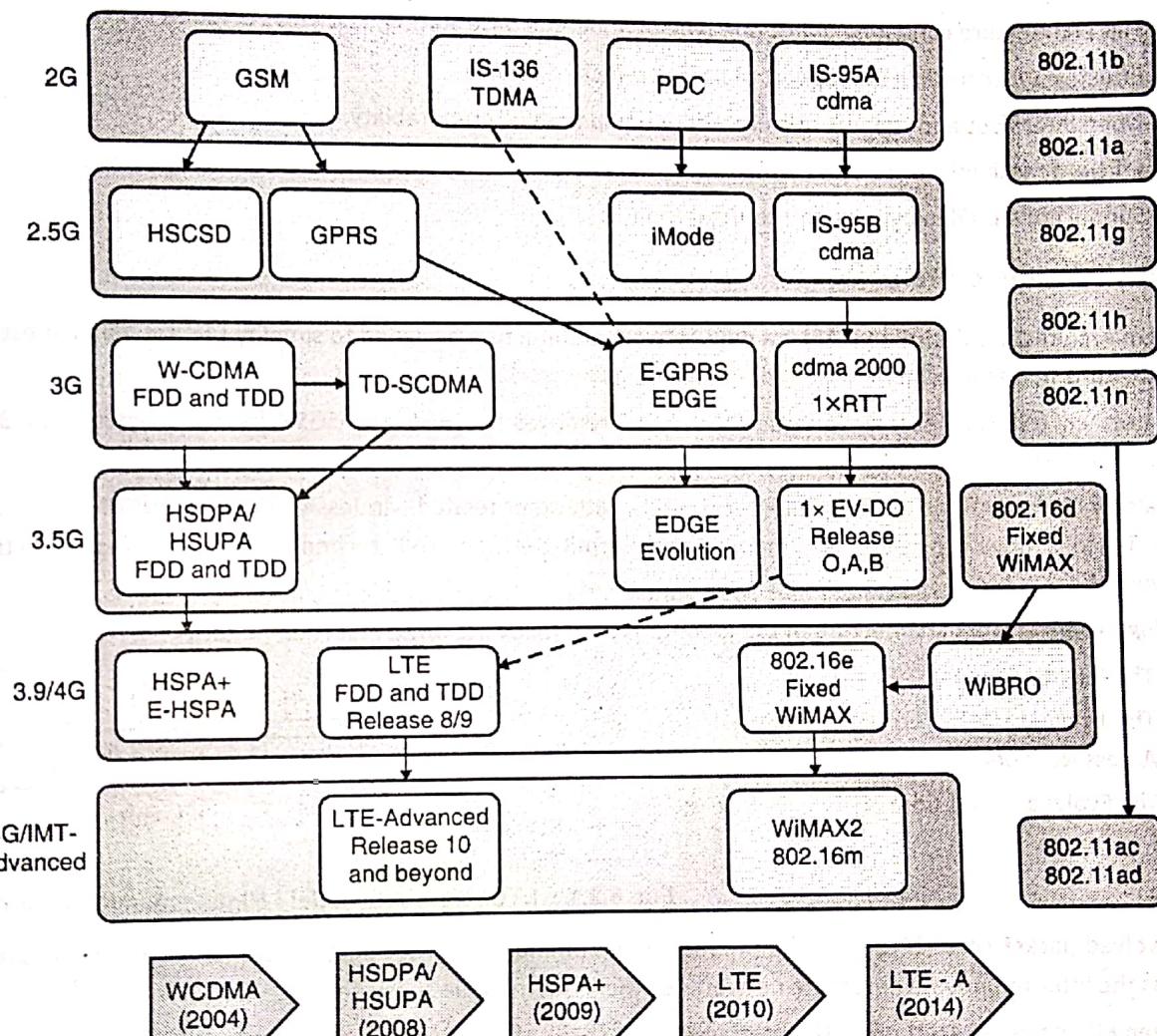


Fig. 6.1.1 : Evolution from UMTS to LTE

Table 6.1.1 : Comparison of all 3G and 4G technologies

Technology	WCDMA	HSPA	HSPA+	LTE	LTE-A
Release	Rel 99/4	Rel 5,6	Rel 7	Rel 8	Rel 9,10
Rollout	2003/4	2005-8	2009	2010	2014
Down link Rate	384Kbps	14 Mbps	28Mbps	150 Mbps	1Gbps
Uplink Rate	128 kbps	5,7 kbps	11Mbps	75M bps	
Delay	150 ms	100 ms	50 ms	10 ms	<10



6.2 SAE/LTE Architecture

6.2.1 SAE Requirements

- As the mobile communication generations evolved, radio interfaces also evolved.
- Soon it was realized that, the system architecture needs to be also evolved in order to support very **high data rate** and **low latency** requirements for 3G LTE.
- Requirement of SAE architecture for LTE includes:
 1. Flat architecture consisting of just one type of node, the base station, known as **eNodeB** in LTE.
 2. Effective protocols for the support of packet-switched services.
 3. Open interfaces and support of multivendor equipment interoperability.
 4. Efficient mechanisms for operation and maintenance, including self-optimization functionalities
 5. Support of easy deployment and configuration.

6.2.2 SAE Architecture

- System Architecture Evolution (SAE) is a new network architecture designed to simplify LTE networks. It establish a flat architecture similar to other IP based communications networks.
- SAE uses an eNB and Access Gateway (aGW) and removes the RNC and SGSN from the equivalent 3G network architecture. This allows the network to be built with an "All-IP" based network architecture.
- SAE also includes entities to allow full inter-working with other related wireless technology (WCDMA, WiMAX, WLAN, etc.). These entities can specifically manage and permit the non-3GPP technologies to interface directly with the network.
- The high-level network architecture of LTE is comprised of following three main components :
 - (i) The User Equipment (UE)
 - (ii) The Evolved UMTS Terrestrial Radio Access Network (E-UTRAN)
 - (iii) The Evolved Packet Core (EPC)

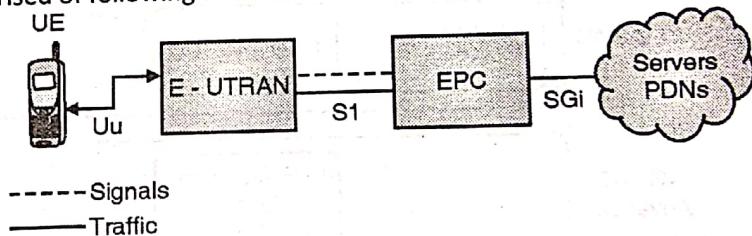


Fig. 6.2.1 : LTE reference model (High level network architecture)

- The evolved packet core (EPC) provides the means to communicate with packet data networks in the outside world such as the internet, private corporate networks or the IP multimedia subsystem.
- Between EU and E-UTRAN there is Uu interface,
- EPC is connected to E-UTRAN via S1 interface and to the outside world via SGi interface.

6.2.2(a) Evolved Packet System (EPS)

- EPS refers to the architecture of the LTE mobile standard.
- It includes the Evolved Packet Core (EPC), the Radio Networks (E-UTRAN), the End User Equipment (UE) and the Services.
- EPS is based entirely on packet switching unlike legacy UMTS and GSM technologies that still use circuit switching .

6.2.2(b) The User Equipment (UE)

- UE is nothing but the mobile equipment.

The internal architecture of the UE for LTE is identical to the one used by UMTS and GSM.



- o **Mobile Termination (MT) :** This handles all the communication functions.
- o **Terminal Equipment (TE) :** This terminates the data streams.
- o **Universal Integrated Circuit Card (UICC) :** This is also known as the SIM card for LTE equipment. It runs an application known as the Universal Subscriber Identity Module (USIM).
- A **USIM** stores user-specific data very similar to 3G SIM card. This keeps information about the user's phone number, home network identity and security keys etc.

6.2.2(c) The E-UTRAN

The architecture of evolved UMTS Terrestrial Radio Access Network (E-UTRAN) has been illustrated in Fig. 6.2.2.

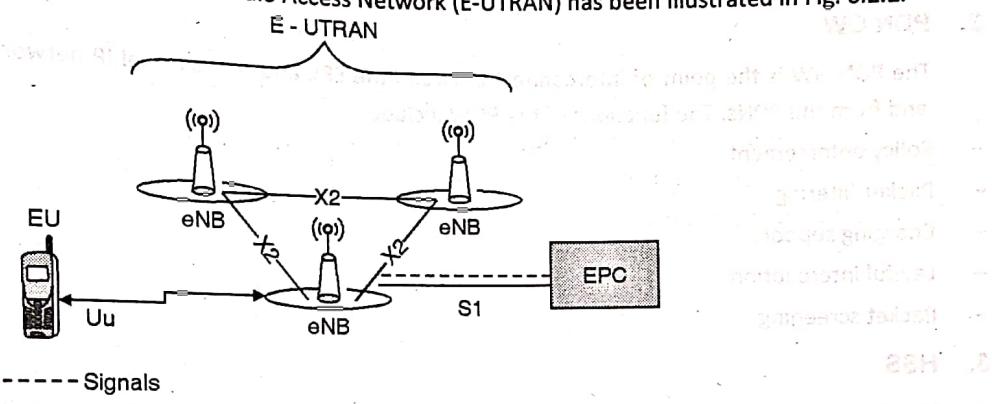


Fig. 6.2.2 : Architecture of E-UTRAN

- The E-UTRAN handles the radio communications between the mobile equipment (ME) and the evolved packet core (EPC). It contains only one component, the evolved base stations, called eNodeB or eNB.
- Each eNB is a base station that controls the mobiles in one or more cells.
- The base station that is currently communicating with a mobile is known as its serving eNB.
- Each eNB connects with the EPC by means of the S1 interface.
- Two nearby base stations can be connected via the X2 interface, which is mainly used for signaling and packet forwarding during handover.

6.2.2(d) Evolved Packet Core (EPC) (The core network)

The architecture of Evolved Packet Core (EPC) is fully IP based has been illustrated in Fig. 6.2.3..

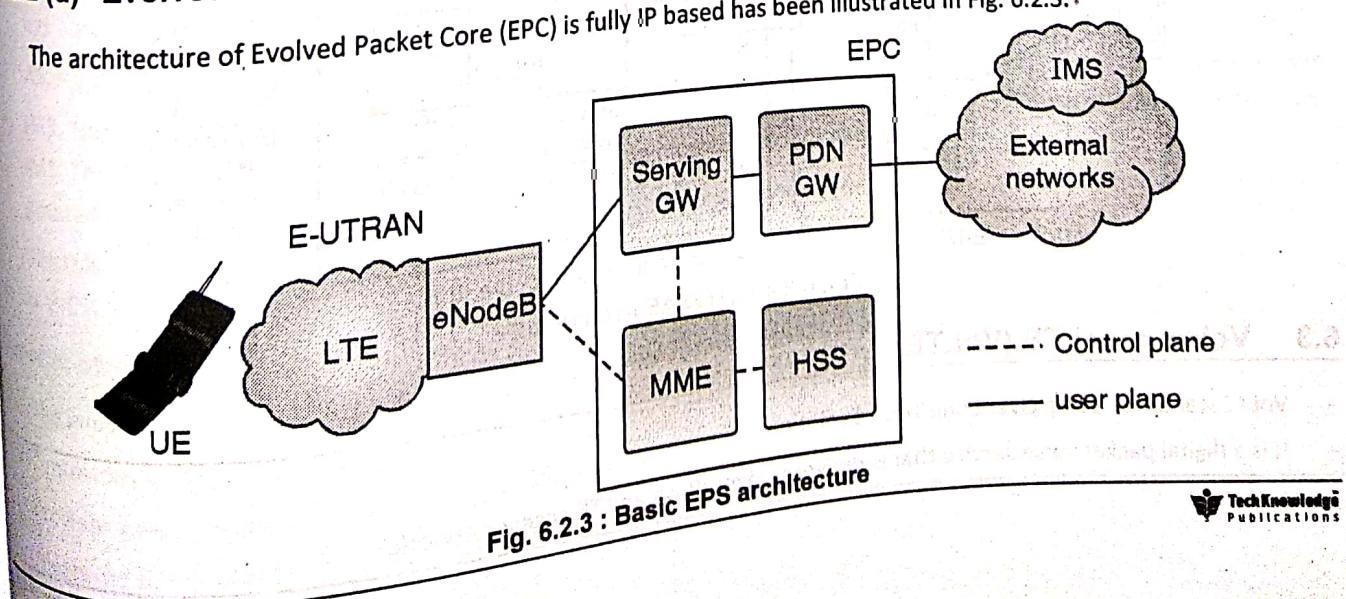


Fig. 6.2.3 : Basic EPS architecture



Evolved Packet Core (EPC) components

It contains following important components :

1. Serving GW

- The serving gateway (S-GW) acts as a router, and forwards data between the base station and the PDN gateway.
- It is also responsible for inter-eNB handovers in the U-plane.
- It provides mobility between LTE and other types of networks (such as between 2G/3G and P-GW).
- The SGW keeps context information such as parameters of the IP bearer and routing information, and stores the UE contexts when paging happens.
- It is also responsible for replicating user traffic for lawful interception.

2. PDN GW

The PDN GW is the point of interconnect between the EPC and the external IP networks. PDN GW routes packets to and from the PDNs. The functions of the PGW include :

- Policy enforcement
- Packet filtering
- Charging support
- Lawful interception
- Packet screening

3. HSS

- The HSS (for Home Subscriber Server) is a database that contains user-related and subscriber-related information.
- It is similar to - Home Location Register (HLR) and Authentication Centre (AuC) used in 3G networks.

4. MME

- The MME (for Mobility Management Entity) deals with the control plane.
- It handles the signaling related to mobility and security for E-UTRAN access. The MME is responsible for the tracking and the paging of UE in idle-mode. It is the termination point of the Non-Access Stratum (NAS).

- Fig. 6.2.4 shows the entire SAE architecture.

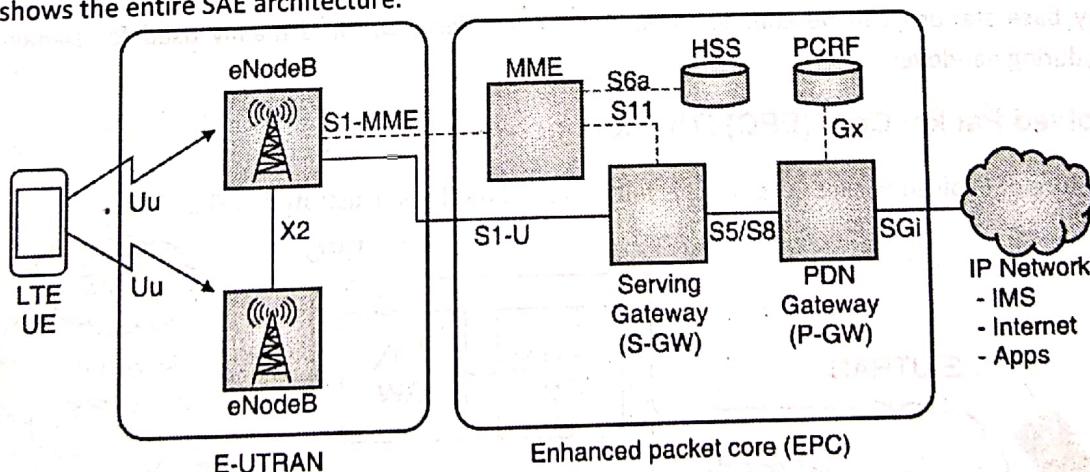


Fig. 6.2.4 : LTE/SAE Architecture

6.3 Voice over LTE (VoLTE)

- VoLTE stands for Voice Over Long Term Evolution.
- It is a digital packet voice service that is delivered over IP via an LTE access network.



- When 3GPP started designing the LTE system, prime focus was to create a system which can achieve high data throughput with low latency.
- LTE is an all IP network and the ability to carry voice was not given much importance. Therefore, for LTE networks to carry traditional circuit switched voice calls, a different solution was required.
- This solution to carry voice over IP in LTE networks is commonly known as "VoLTE". Basically VoLTE systems convert voice into data stream, which is then transmitted using the data connection.
- VoLTE is based on the IMS(IP multimedia system).
- IMS is an architectural framework for delivering multimedia communications services such as voice, video and text messaging over IP networks.

Voice over LTE - VoLTE basics

- VoLTE, Voice over LTE is an IMS (IP multimedia System) based technique.
- VoLTE enables the system to be integrated with the suite of other applications for LTE.
- To make implementation of VoLTE easy and cost effective to operators, cut down version of IMS network was defined. This not only reduced the number of entities required in the IMS network, but it also simplified the interconnectivity.
- This considerably reduced the costs for network operators as this had been a major issue for acceptance of IMS. The reduced IMS network for LTE has been shown in Fig. 6.3.1.

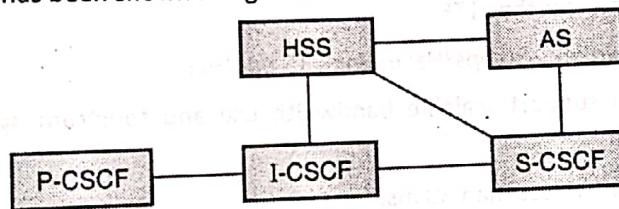


Fig. 6.3.1 : Reduced IMS network for VoLTE

The entities within the reduced IMS network used for VoLTE are explained below :

- i) **IP-CAN IP, Connectivity Access Network** : This consists of the EUTRAN and the MME.
- ii) **P-CSCF, Proxy Call State Control Function** : The P-CSCF is the user to network proxy. All SIP signaling to and from the user runs via the P-CSCF whether in the home or a visited network.
- iii) **I-CSCF, Interrogating Call State Control Function** : The I-CSCF is used for forwarding an initial SIP request to the S-CSCF. When the initiator does not know which S-CSCF should receive the request.
- iv) **S-CSCF, Serving Call State Control Function** : The S-CSCF performs a variety of actions within the overall system, and it has a number of interfaces to enable it to communicate with other entities within the overall system.
- v) **AS, Application Server** : It is the application server that handles the voice as an application.
- vi) **HSS, Home Subscriber Server** : The IMS HSS or home subscriber server is the main subscriber database used within IMS. The IMS HSS provides details of the subscribers to the other entities within the IMS network, enabling users to be granted access or not dependent upon their status.

The IMS calls for VoLTE are processed by the subscriber's S-CSCF in the home network. The connection to the S-CSCF is via the P-CSCF.

Benefits of VoLTE

The implementation of VoLTE offers many benefits, both in terms of cost and operation.

VoLTE provides following benefits :

- Provides a more efficient use of spectrum than traditional voice;
- Meets the rising demand for richer, more reliable services;



- Eliminates the need to have voice on one network and data on another;
- Can be deployed in parallel with video calls over LTE and multimedia services, including video share, multimedia messaging, chat and file transfer;
- Ensures that video services are fully interoperable across the operator community, just as voice services are,
- Increases handset battery life by 40 % (compared with VoIP);
- Provides rapid call establishment time.

6.4 Introduction to LTE-Advanced

- LTE Advanced adds a number of additional capabilities to the basic LTE to provide very much higher data rates and much better performance.
- LTE provides improved performance particularly at cell edges and other areas where performance would not normally have been so good.

6.4.1 LTE Advanced Key Features

The main aims for LTE Advanced :

- **Peak data rates** : Downlink - 1 Gbps; uplink - 500 Mbps.
 - **Spectrum efficiency** : 3 times greater than LTE.
 - **Peak spectrum efficiency** : Downlink - 30 bps/Hz; uplink - 15 bps/Hz.
 - **Spectrum use** : The ability to support scalable bandwidth use and spectrum aggregation where non-contiguous spectrum needs to be used.
 - **Latency** : From Idle to Connected in less than 50 ms.
 - Cell edge user throughput to be twice that of LTE.
 - Average user throughput to be 3 times that of LTE.
 - **Mobility** : Same as that in LTE
 - **Compatibility** : LTE Advanced shall be capable of interworking with LTE and 3GPP legacy systems.
- These are many of the development aims for LTE Advanced.

6.4.2 LTE - Advanced : System Aspects

- The main new functionalities introduced in LTE-Advanced are;
 - o Carrier Aggregation (CA)
 - o Enhanced use of multi-antenna techniques (MIMO)
 - o Support for Relay Nodes (RN)
- LTE-Advanced is the all IP based cellular networks that can offer higher user data rates and lower latency.
- In LTE-Advanced lower latency can be achieved by adopting terminal state of being idle or active. This can significantly reduce control plane latency and signaling compare to earlier generation.
- Higher user data rates can be achieved by adopting several techniques including: MIMO support, Modulation techniques like OFDM, bandwidth flexibility, and the support of FDD (Frequency Division Duplex) and TDD (Time Division Duplex) modes of operation.

6.4.2(a) Carrier Aggregation

- The increase in bandwidth in LTE-Advanced is achieved through aggregation of carriers. Carrier aggregation can be used for both FDD and TDD.

- Each aggregated carrier is referred to as a 'component carrier'. The component carrier can have a bandwidth of 1.4, 3, 5, 10, 15 or 20 MHz.
- Maximum of five component carriers can be aggregated, hence the maximum bandwidth is 100 MHz.
- The number of aggregated carriers can be different in DownLink and UpLink; however the number of UpLink component carriers is never larger than the number of DownLink component carriers.

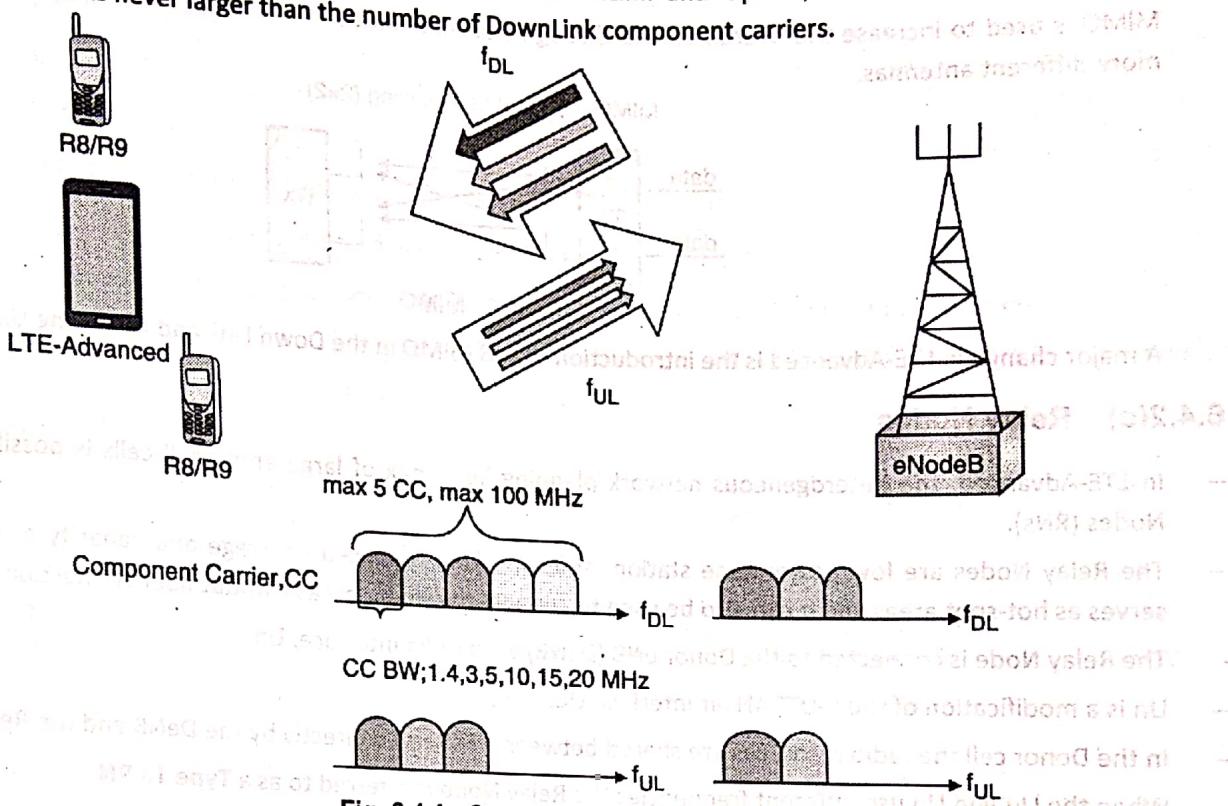


Fig. 6.4.1 : Carrier aggregation

- There are two types of carrier aggregation: continuous and non-continuous.
- In continuous aggregation, contiguous component carriers within the same operating frequency band are aggregated so called intra-band contiguous.
- For non-contiguous allocation it could either be intra-band, (i.e. the component carriers belong to the same operating frequency band, but are separated by a frequency gap) or it could be inter-band, in which case the component carriers belong to different operating frequency bands (Refer Fig. 6.4.2)

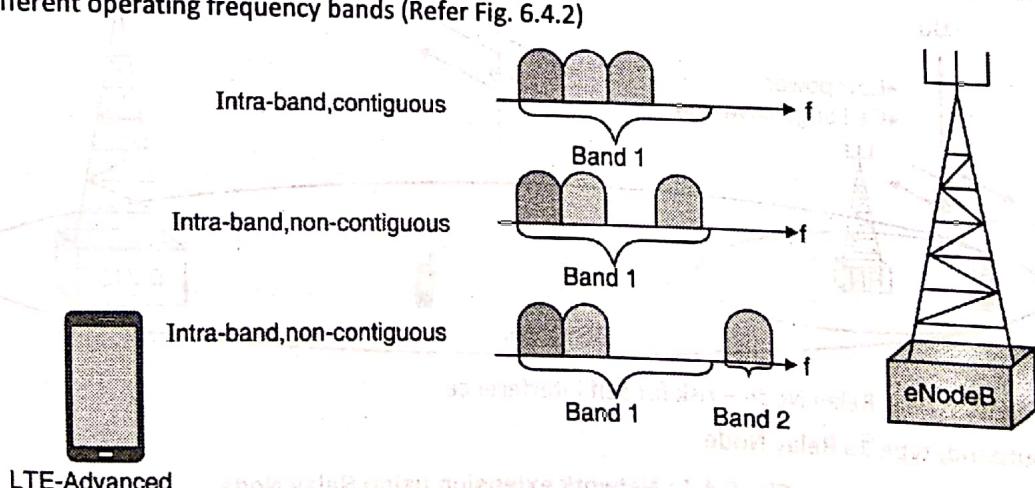


Fig. 6.4.2 : Intra and Inter band carrier aggregation

- For each component carrier there is a one serving cell.
- The coverage of the serving cells may differ due to the component carrier frequencies.



- The RRC connection is handled by one cell called the Primary serving cell, served by the Primary component carrier.
- The other component carriers are all referred to as Secondary component carrier serving the Secondary serving cells.

6.4.2(b) MIMO (Multiple Input and Multiple Output)

MIMO is used to increase the overall bitrate through transmission of two or more different data streams on two or more different antennas.

MIMO – Spatial Multiplexing (2x2)

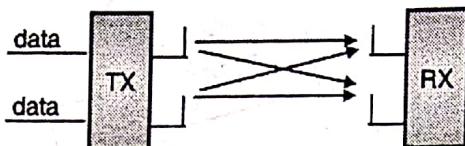
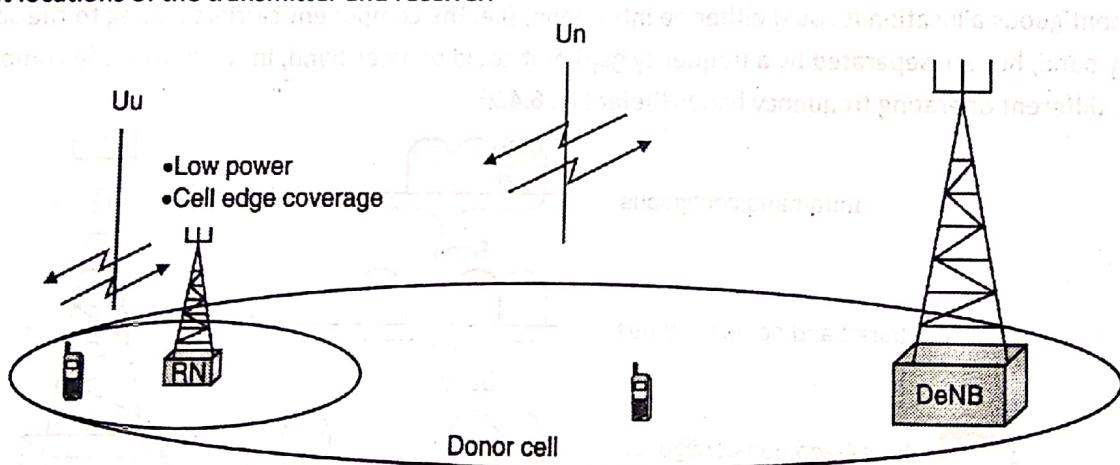


Fig. 6.4.3 : MIMO

A major change in LTE-Advanced is the introduction of 8x8 MIMO in the Down Link and 4x4 in the Up link.

6.4.2(c) Relay Nodes

- In LTE-Advanced, the heterogeneous network planning i.e. a mix of large and small cells is possible through Relay Nodes (RNs).
- The Relay Nodes are low power base stations that provides enhanced coverage and capacity at cell edges. It also serves as hot-spot areas and it can also be used to connect to remote areas without fiber connection.
- The Relay Node is connected to the Donor eNB (DeNB) via a radio interface, Un.
- Un is a modification of the E-UTRAN air interface Uu.
- In the Donor cell the radio resources are shared between UEs served directly by the DeNB and the Relay Nodes.
- When the Uu and Un use different frequencies the Relay Node is referred to as a **Type 1a RN**
- When Uu and Un uses the same frequencies, it is called **Type 1 RN**.
- In case of Type 1RN, there is a high risk for self interference in the Relay Node, when receiving on Uu and transmitting on Un at the same time (or vice versa). This can be avoided through time sharing between Uu and Un, or having different locations of the transmitter and receiver.



f=f, inband, type 1 Relay Node – risk for self interference

f ≠ f, outband, type 1a Relay Node

Fig. 6.4.4 : Network extension using Relay Node

- Fig. 6.4.4 shows the Relay Node (RN) is connected to the DeNB via the radio interface Un. UEs at the edge of the donor cell are connected to the RN via Uu, while UEs closer to the DeNB are directly connected to the DeNB via the Uu interface. The frequencies used on Un and Un can be different, outband, or the same, inband.

6.4.2(d) Coordinated Multipoint (CoMP)

One of the key issues with many cellular systems is that of poor performance at the cell edges. To improve the performance at cell edges, LTE-Advanced introduces coordinated multipoint (CoMP) scheme.

In CoMP there are two important components :

1. TX (Transmit) points
 2. RX (Receive) Points
- A number of TX points provide coordinated transmission in the DL (DownLink).
 - Similarly a number of RX points provide coordinated reception in the UL (UpLink).
 - A TX/RX-point constitutes of a set of co-located TX/RX antennas providing coverage in the same sector.
 - The set of TX/RX-points used in CoMP can either be at different locations, or co-sited but providing coverage in different sectors. They can also belong to the same or different eNBs.
 - In Fig. 6.4.5 two simplified examples for DL CoMP is shown.

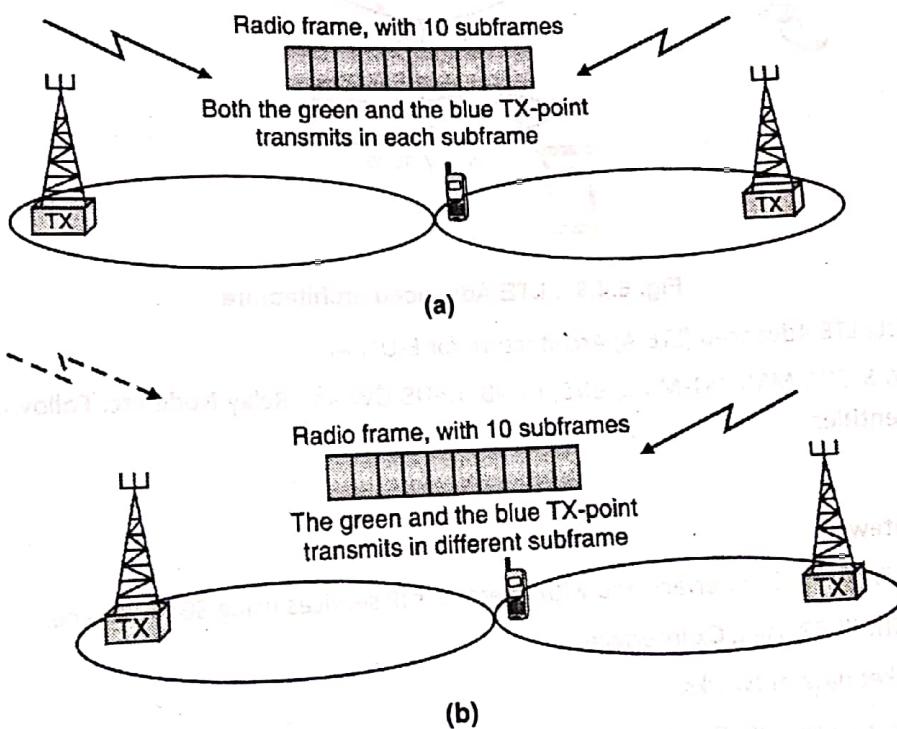


Fig. 6.4.5 : Down Link CoMP (a) Joint Transmission (b) Dynamic point selection

- In both these cases Down link (DL) data is available for transmission from two TX-points. When two, or more, TX-points, transmit on the same frequency in the same subframe it is called Joint Transmission.
- When data is available for transmission at two or more TX-points but only scheduled from one TX-point in each subframe it is called Dynamic Point Selection.
- In case of Uplink (UL) CoMP, there is a Joint Reception i.e. a number of RX-points receive the UL data from one UE, and the received data is combined to improve the quality.
- When CoMP is used additional radio resources for signaling is required e.g. to provide UE scheduling information for the different DL/UL resources.

6.4.3 LTE Advanced Architecture

6.4.3(a) Architecture

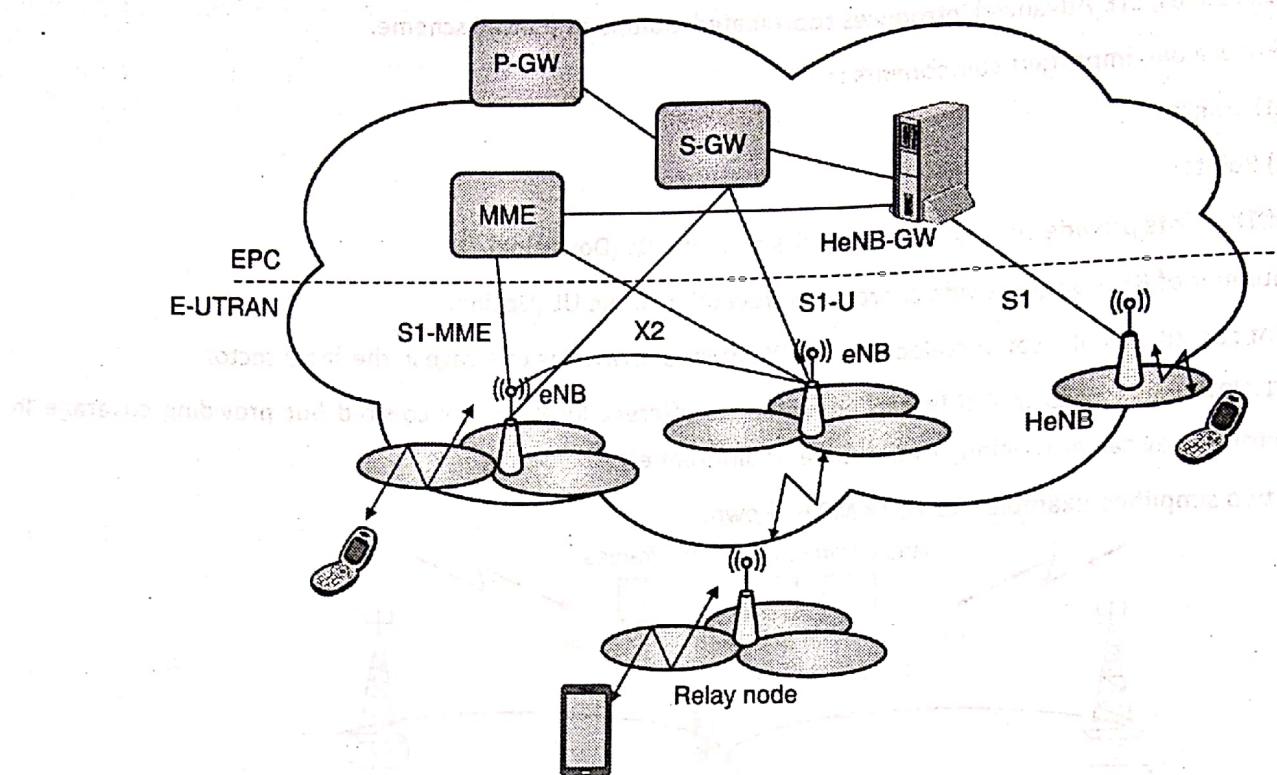


Fig. 6.4.6 : LTE Advanced architecture

- The Fig. 6.4.6 depicts LTE Advanced (LTE-A) Architecture for E-UTRAN.
- It consists of P-GW, S-GW, MME, S1-MME, eNB, HeNB, HeNB-GW and Relay Node etc. Following are the functions of these architecture entities.

P-GW

- It stands for PDN Gateway.
- It interfaces with S-GW using S5 interface and with operator's IP services using SGi interface.
- It has connectivity with PCRP using Gx interface.
- It connects UE to packet data networks.
- P-GW assigns IP address to the UE. One UE can have connectivity with more than one PGWs in order to have access to multiple PDNs.
- It takes care of packet filtering, policy enforcement and charging related services. Moreover it fulfils connectivity between 3GPP (LTE, LTE-A) and non 3GPP (WiMAX, CDMA etc.) technologies.

S-GW

- It stands for Serving Gateway.
- It interfaces with MME using S11 interface and with SGSN using S4 interface.
- It connects with PDN-GW using S5 interface as mentioned above.
- EPC gets terminated at this node/entity. It is connected with E-UTRAN via S1-U interface.
- Each UE in LTE-A is associated to unique S-GW which has several functions.



- It helps in inter-eNB handover as well as Inter-3GPP mobility.
- It helps in inter-operator charging. It does packet routing and packet forwarding.

MME

- It stands for Mobility Management Entity.
- It is major control plane element in LTE advanced architecture.
- It takes care of authentication, authorization and NAS signaling related security functions.
- It takes care of selecting either S-GW or PDN-GW or P-GW.

S1-MME

It provides connectivity between EPC and eNBs.

eNB

- It is main building block or system in LTE-A.
- It provides interface with UEs or LTE-A phones.
- It has similar functionality as base station used in GSM or other cellular systems.
- Each of the eNBs serve one or several E-UTRAN cells. Interface between two eNBs is known as X2 interface.

HeNB

- It stands for Home eNodeB or Home eNB.
- It is known as Fem to cell.
- It is used to improve coverage in the indoor region of office or home premises.
- It can be interfaced directly to EPC or via Gateway.

HeNB-GW

- It provides connectivity of HeNB with S-GW and MME.
- It aggregates all the traffic from number of Home eNBs to core network.
- It uses S1 interface to connect with HeNBs.

Relay Node :

It is used for improving network performance.

6.4.3(b) Comparison of LTE and LTE-A

- Both the LTE and LTE-Advanced are fourth generation wireless technologies designed to use for high speed broadband internet access.
- The specifications are published by 3rd Generation Partnership Project (3GPP).
- LTE is specified in 3GPP release 8 and LTE Advanced is specified in 3GPP release 10.
- LTE is the short form of Long Term Evolution. It uses FDD and TDD duplex modes for the UEs to communicate with the eNodeB. The LTE uses OFDMA modulation in the downlink (from eNodeB to UEs) and SC-FDMA modulation in the uplink. Various physical channels and logical channels are designed to take care of data as well as control information. It supports peak data rate of 300MBPS in the downlink and 75MBPS in the uplink (theoretically).
- LTE-Advanced is the upgraded version of LTE technology to increase the peak data rates to about 1GBPS in the downlink and 500MBPS in the uplink. In order to increase the data rates LTE-Advanced utilizes higher number of antennas and added carrier aggregation feature.
- Table 6.4.2 summarizes the key differences between LTE and LTEA.



Table 6.4.2 : Difference between LTE and LTEA

Specifications	LTE	LTE Advanced
Standard	3GPP Release 9	3GPP Release 10
Bandwidth	Supports 1.4MHz, 3.0MHz, 5MHz, 10MHz, 15MHz, 20MHz	70MHz Downlink(DL), 40MHz Uplink(UL)
Data rate	300 Mbps Downlink(DL) 4x4MIMO and 20MHz, 75 Mbps Uplink(UL)	1Gbps Downlink(DL), 500 Mbps Uplink(UL)
Theoretical Throughput	About 100Mbps for single chain (20MHz,100RB,64QAM), 400Mbps for 4x4 MIMO. 25% of this is used for control/signaling (OVERHEAD)	2 times than LTE
Maximum No. of Layers	2(category-3) and 4(category-4,5) in the downlink, 1 in the uplink	8 in the downlink, 4 in the uplink
Maximum No. of codewords	2 in the downlink, 1 in the uplink	2 in the downlink, 2 in the uplink
Spectral Efficiency(peak,b/s/Hz)	16.3 for 4x4 MIMO in the downlink, 4.32 for 64QAM SISO case in the Uplink	30 for 8x8 MIMO in the downlink, 15 for 4x4 MIMO in the Uplink
PUSCH and PUCCH transmission	Simultaneously not allowed	Simultaneously allowed
Modulation schemes supported	QPSK, 16QAM, 64QAM	QPSK, 16QAM, 64QAM
Access technique	OFDMA (DL),DFTS-OFDM (UL)	Hybrid OFDMA(DL), SC-FDMA(UL)
Carrier aggregation	Not supported	Supported
Applications	Mobile broadband and VOIP	Mobile broadband and VOIP

6.4.4 LTE Protocol Stack

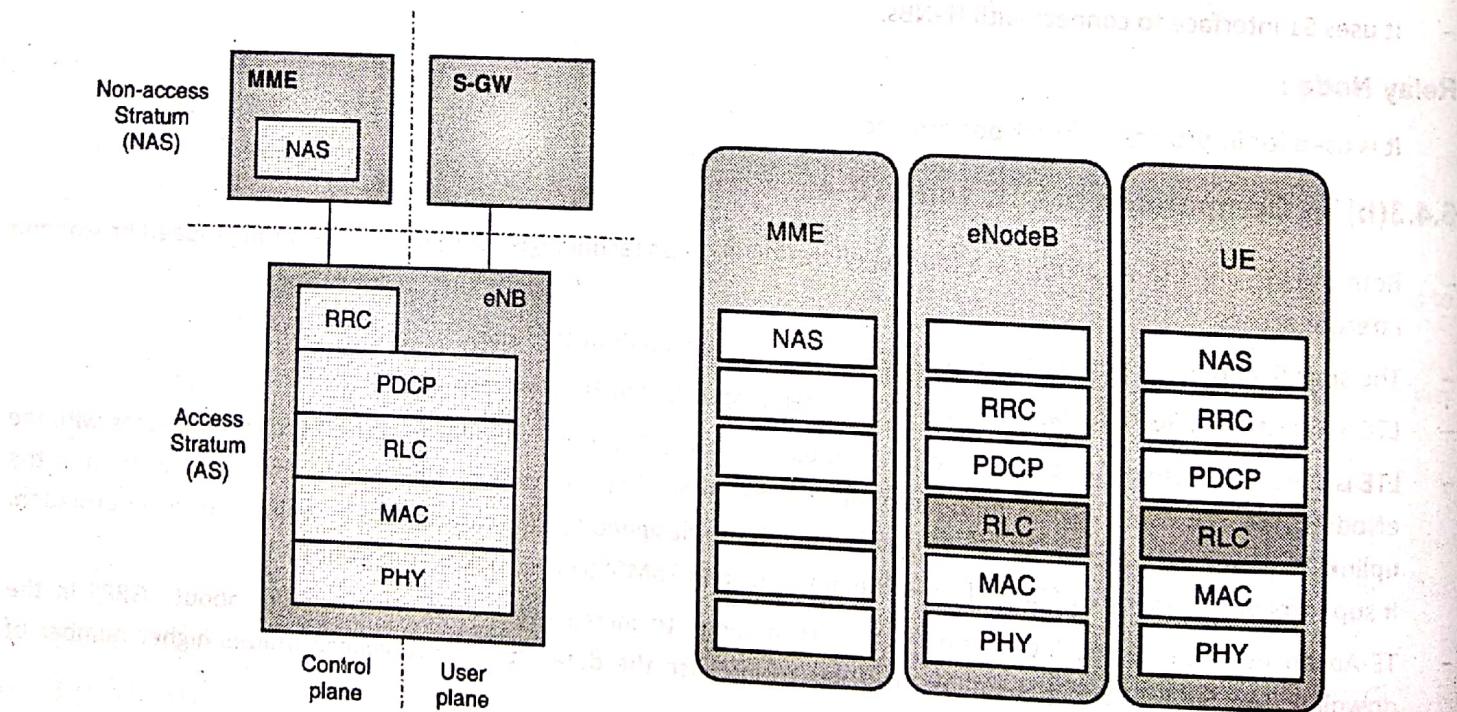


Fig. 6.4.7 : LTE Protocol stack

- Fig. 6.4.7 depicts LTE protocol stack. It is divided into two main parts - NAS (Non-Access Stratum) and AS (Access Stratum).
 - Further it is categorized into **control plane** and **user plane**.
 - User plane of eNB consists of PHY, MAC, RLC and PDCP layers.
 - Control plane of eNB consists of these 4 layers and in addition RRC layer also.
- Following are functions of each layer.

PHY

- This layer takes care of frame formation as per TDD or FDD topology and as per OFDMA structure.
- Moreover, it takes care of modulation and coding of different control and traffic channels.
- It covers scrambling and codeword to layer mapping functionalities.
- It incorporates reference signals which are used for channel estimation and channel equalization.

MAC-Medium Access Control

It takes care of following functions :

- Multiplexing/demultiplexing of RLC Packet Data Units (PDUs).
- Scheduling information reporting.
- Error correction through Hybrid ARQ (HARQ).
- Local Channel Prioritization.
- Padding.

RLC-Radio Link Control

- Error correction through Automatic Repeat reQuest (ARQ).
- Segmentation according to the size of the transport block and re-segmentation in case a retransmission is needed.
- Concatenation of SDUs for the same radio bearer.
- Protocol error detection and recovery.
- In-sequence delivery.

PDCP-Packet Data Convergence Protocol

- Header compression.
- In-sequence delivery and retransmission of PDCP Session Data Units (SDUs).
- Duplicate detection.
- Ciphering and integrity protection.

RRC-Radio Resource Control

- Broadcast system information related to Non-Access Stratum (NAS) and Access Stratum (AS).
- Establishment, maintenance, and release of RRC connection.
- Security functions including key management.
- Mobility functions.
- QoS management functions.
- UE measurement reporting and control of the reporting.
- NAS direct message transfer between UE and NAS.

NAS-Non Access Stratum

Connection/session management between UE and the core network.

- Authentication.



- Registration.
- Bearer context activation/deactivation.
- Location registration management.

6.5 Higher Protocol Layers

Higher layer protocols include :

- (i) Radio Link Control - RLC
- (ii) Packet Data Convergence Protocol - PDCP and
- (iii) Radio Resource Control - RRC

6.5.1 Radio Link Control (RLC)

- RLC – Radio Link Control protocol is a data link layer protocol (Layer 2 protocol).
- An RLC entity receives/delivers RLC SDUs from/to upper layer and sends/receives RLC PDUs to/from its peer RLC entity via lower layers.
- If RLC entity configured at the eNB, there is a peer RLC entity configured at the UE and vice versa. (Fig 6.5.1 (b)) RLC performs following major functions :
 - o Error correction through Automatic Repeat reQuest (ARQ).
 - o Segmentation according to the size of the transport block and re-segmentation in case a retransmission is needed.
 - o Concatenation of SDUs for the same radio bearer.
 - o Protocol error detection and recovery.
 - o In-sequence delivery.

RLC Modes :

An RLC entity can be configured to perform data transfer in one of the following three modes.

1. Transparent Mode (TM)

- As the name suggests the Transparent mode entity in RLC does not add any overhead to the upper layer SDUs.
- The entity just transmits the SDUs coming from upper layer to MAC.

In this mode :

- o Segmentation or reassembly of RLC SDUs is not allowed
 - o No RLC headers are added.
 - o Does not guarantees delivery
- RLC TM is used for transmission of paging messages on PCCH, system information transmitted on BCCH and SRBO messages transmitted on CCCH.

2. Unacknowledged Mode (UM)

RLC Unacknowledged Mode is used for transmission of **delay sensitive packets**, such as VoIP packets or audio/video streams.

In this mode :

- o Segmentation or reassembly of RLC SDUs is allowed
- o RLC headers are added.
- o Does not guarantees delivery
- o This mode is suitable for carrying streaming traffic.

3. Acknowledged Mode (AM)

RLC AM is used both in user plane and control plane packets. But in both the cases PDCP is the upper layer. So all the SDUs which come to RLC AM entity are security protected.

In this mode :

- o Segmentation or reassembly of RLC SDUs is allowed
- o RLC headers are added.
- o Guarantees In-sequence delivery of SDUs. It supports HARQ mechanism to retransmit lost PDUs.
- o This mode is suitable for carrying TCP traffic.

RLC PDU (Protocol Data Unit)

- RLC PDUs can be categorized into RLC data PDUs and RLC control PDUs.
- RLC data PDUs are used by TM, UM and AM RLC entities to transfer upper layer PDUs (i.e. RLC SDUs).
- RLC control PDUs are used by AM RLC entity to perform ARQ procedures.

6.5.2 Packet Data Convergence Protocol (PDCP)

The PDCP layer is located above the RLC layer and below the IP layer (in the user plane) or the RRC layer (in the control plane).

- PDCP is a kind of interface between inside world and outside world.
- In other words, the data coming into the eNB first go through PDCP and then gets into RLC (Downlink). Data waiting in RLC trying to go out to the outside world has to go through PDCP to reach outside world(Uplink Path)

The major functions of PDCP layer

The major functions of PDCP layer are as follows.

- o Header compression
- o In-sequence delivery and retransmission of PDCP Session Data Units (SDUs)
- o Duplicate detection
- o Ciphering and integrity protection

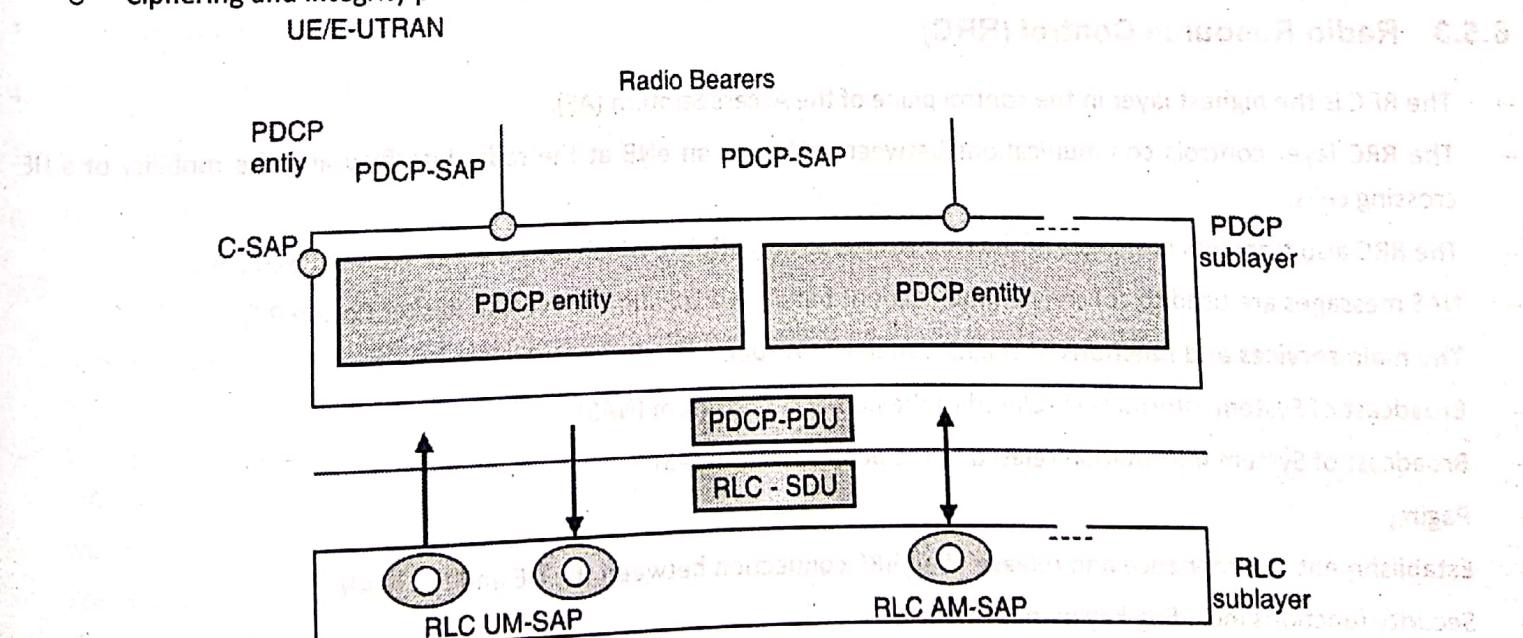


Fig. 6.5.1 : PDCP layer, structure view

- PDCP is directly connected to RLC Layer (RLC UM and RLC AM). Note that PDCP has no connection to RLC TM mode, meaning RLC TM mode data does not go through PDCP.

- Fig. 6.5.2 gives the complete functional overview of the PDCP

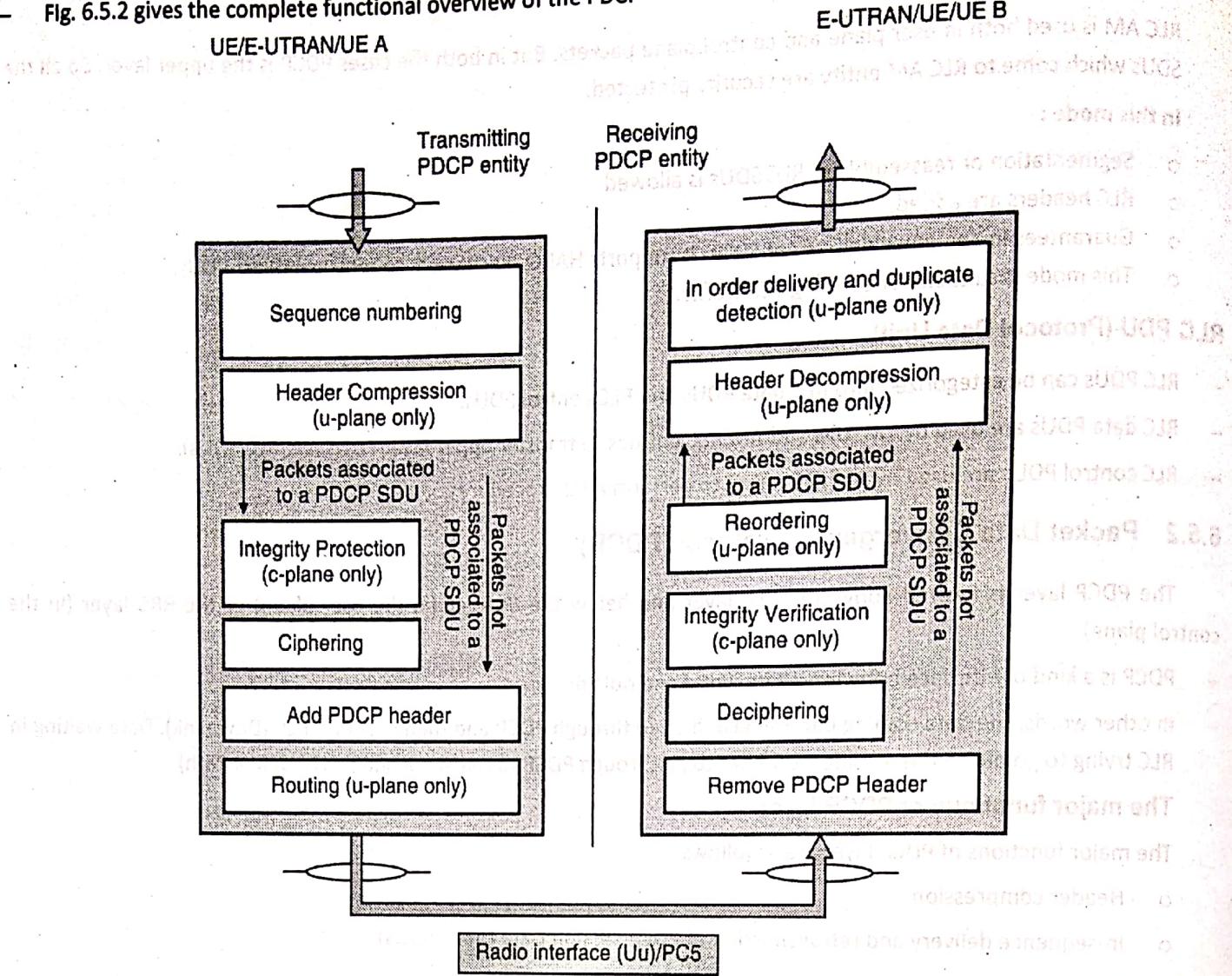


Fig. 6.5.2 : Functional overview of PDCP

6.5.3 Radio Resource Control (RRC)

- The RRC is the highest layer in the control plane of the Access Stratum (AS).
 - The RRC layer controls communications between a UE and an eNB at the radio interface and the mobility of a UE crossing cells.
 - The RRC also transfers messages of the Non-Access Stratum (NAS), which is located above the RRC layer.
 - NAS messages are used to control communications between a UE and the Evolved Packet Core (EPC).

The main services and functions of the RRC sublayer include :

- Broadcast of System Information related to the non-access stratum (NAS)
 - Broadcast of System Information related to the access stratum (AS)
 - Paging
 - Establishment, maintenance and release of an RRC connection between the UE and E-UTRAN
 - Security functions including key management
 - Establishment, configuration, maintenance and release of point to point Radio Bearers
 - Mobility functions

- QoS management functions
- UE measurement reporting and control of the reporting
- NAS direct message transfer to/from NAS from/to UE.

6.6 LTE MAC Layer

As discussed earlier the MAC layer of LTE performs following functions.

- Error correction through Hybrid ARQ (HARQ).
- Logical channel to transport channel mapping
- Logical Channel Prioritization.
- Scheduling information reporting.
- Multiplexing/demultiplexing of RLC Packet Data Units (PDUs).

6.6.1 Error Correction through Hybrid ARQ

- The Hybrid Automatic Repeat-reQuest (HARQ) process is done in combination between the MAC and the PHY layer.
- The PHY performs the retention and re-combination and the MAC performs the management and signaling.
- The MAC indicates a NACK whenever there's a transport block (TB) CRC failure; the PHY usually indicates that failure.
- Retransmission is done by the eNodeB or the sender on the downlink using a different type of coding.
- The coding is sent and maintained in buffers in the eNodeB. Eventually, after one or two attempts, there will be enough data to reconstruct the signal.
- In HARQ operation, the retransmission does not have to be fully correct. It has to be correct enough that it can be combined mathematically with the previous transport block (TB) in order to produce a good transport block.

These are the basic steps of the HARQ process :

1. MAC sends "NACK" message when transport block (TB) fails CRC check.
2. Transport blocks with errors are retained.
3. PHY retransmits with different puncturing code
4. Retransmission is combined with saved transport block(s)
5. When correct transport block is decoded, MAC signals "ACK"
6. Multiple HARQ processes can run in parallel to retry several outstanding TBs.

6.6.2 Logical Channels to Transport Channel Mapping

- **Logical channels** exist at the top of the MAC. Types of logical channels include control channels (for control plane data) and traffic channels (for user plane data)
- **Transport channels** are in the transport blocks at the bottom of the MAC. They represent data transfer services offered by the PHY and are defined by how the information is carried, different physical layer modulations and the way they are encoded.
- When a valid transport block is available from the HARQ process, the transport channels are mapped to logical channels.
- Fig. 6.6.1 shows the mapping of logical channels to transport channels.

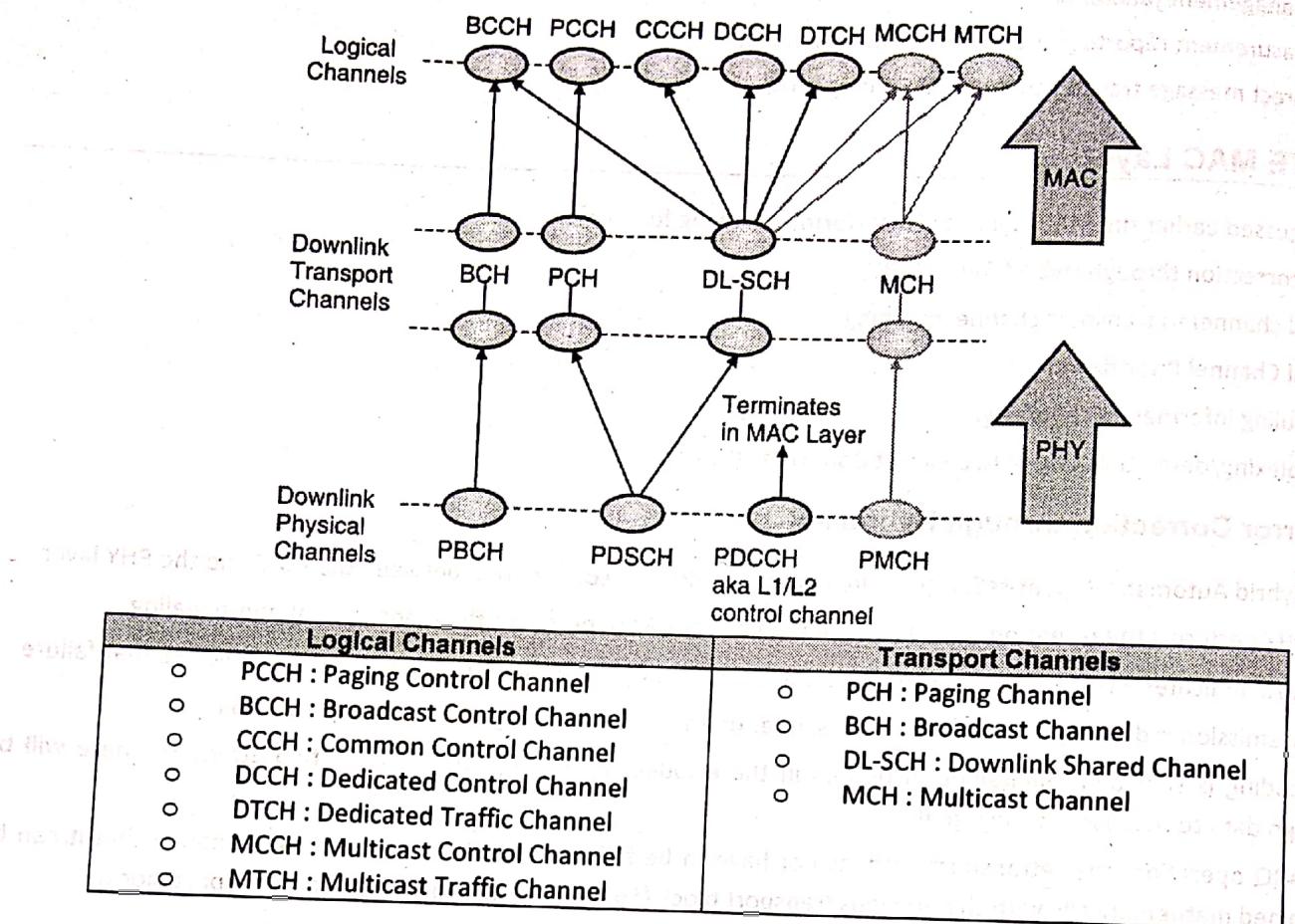


Fig. 6.6.1 : Logical channels to Physical channel mapping for Down link

- Fig. 6.6.1 shows the physical layer control channel at the bottom of the picture.
- It is used for scheduling, signaling and other low-level functions.
- The downlink shared channel contains both a transport channel for paging and for downlink. The physical broadcast channel goes all the way through for broadcast.
- Multicast channels are grayed out in Fig. 6.6.1 because they are not being specified in Release 8 of the LTE standard. These channels will be re-addressed in Release 9.

Fig. 6.6.1 illustrates the following logical channels :

- (i) **Dedicated Traffic Channel (DTCH) :** A point-to-point channel, dedicated to one UE, for the transfer of user information. A DTCH can exist in both uplink and downlink.
- (ii) **Broadcast Control Channel (BCCH) :** A downlink channel for broadcasting system control information.
- (iii) **Paging Control Channel (PCCH) :** A downlink channel that transfers paging information. This channel is used when the network does not know the location cell of the UE.
- (iv) **Common Control Channel (CCCH) :** Uplink channel for transmitting control information between UEs and network. This channel is used by the UEs having no RRC connection with the network.
- (v) **Dedicated Control Channel (DCCH) :** A point-to-point bi-directional channel that transmits dedicated control information between a UE and the network. Used by UEs that have an RRC connection.

6.6.3 Logical Channel Prioritization

- When the radio resources for a new transmission are allocated, the logical channel prioritization entity instructs the multiplexing and de-multiplexing entity to generate MAC PDUs from the MAC SDUs.
- The logical channel prioritization entity also decides how much data from each configured logical channel should be included in each MAC PDU whenever radio resource for a new transmission is available.

6.6.4 Scheduling

- Scheduling is a process through which eNodeB decides which UEs should be given resources (RBs), how much resource (RBs) should be given to send or receive data.
- In LTE, scheduling is done at per subframe basis i.e. every 1 millisecond.
- Resources are composed of Physical Resource Blocks (PRBs) and Modulation Coding Scheme (MCS).
- The MCS determines the bit rate, and thus the capacity, of PRBs.

An LTE scheduler performs following function for efficient scheduling :

- (i) **Link Adaptation** : It selects the optimal combination of parameters such as modulation, channel Coding and transmit schemes.
- (ii) **Rate Control** : It is in charge of resource allocation among radio bearers of the same UE which are available at the eNB for DL and at the UE for UL.
- (iii) **Packet Scheduler** : It controls access to air interface resources amongst all active Users.
- (iv) **Resource Assignment** : It allocates air interface resources to selected active users on per TTI basis.
- (v) **Power Control** : Provides the desired SINR level for achieving the desired data rate, but also controls the interference to the neighbouring cells.
- (vi) **HARQ (ARQ + FEC)** : It allows recovering from residual errors by link adaptation.

6.7 PHY Layer

6.7.1 Generic Frame Structure

- The LTE specifications define both FDD and TDD modes of operation.
- The generic frame structure shown in Fig. 6.7.1 applies to both the DL and UL for FDD operation.

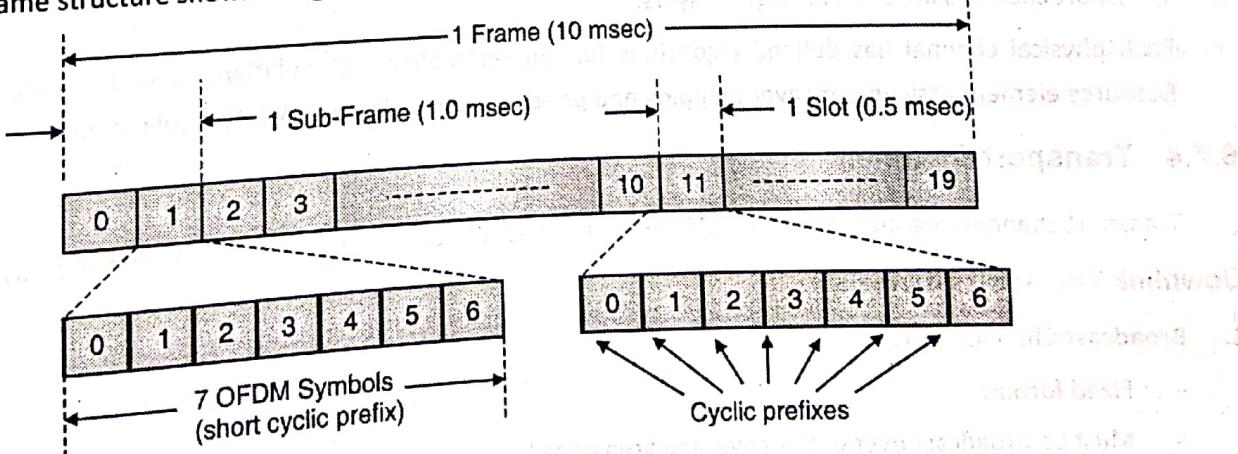


Fig. 6.7.1 : LTE Generic Frame Structure

- In OFDMA, users are allocated a specific number of subcarriers for a predetermined amount of time. These are referred to as physical resource blocks (PRBs) in the LTE specifications.

- PRBs thus have both a time and frequency dimension.
- Allocation of PRBs is handled by a scheduling function at eNodeB.
- LTE transmissions are segmented into frames, which are 10 msec in duration.
- One frames consist of 20 slot periods of 0.5 msec.
- Sub-frames contain two slot periods and are 1.0 msec in duration.

Downlink

- The LTE PHY specification accommodates bandwidths from 1.25 MHz to 20 MHz.
- The basic modulation scheme is OFDM which is very robust in the presence of severe multipath fading.
- Downlink multiplexing is accomplished via OFDMA.
- The DL supports physical channels, which convey information from higher layers in the LTE stack.
- Physical channels map to transport channels, which are service access points (SAPs) for the L2/L3 layers.
- Depending on the assigned task, physical channels and signals use different modulation and coding parameters.

6.7.2 Downlink Multiplexing

- OFDMA is the basic multiplexing scheme employed in the LTE downlink.
- In OFDMA, groups of 12 adjacent subcarriers are grouped together on a slot-by-slot basis to form physical resource blocks (PRBs).
- A PRB is the smallest unit of bandwidth assigned by the base station scheduler.

6.7.3 Physical Channels

- Three different types of physical channels are defined for the LTE downlink.
- LTE DL physical channels are :
 - o Physical Downlink Shared Channel (PDSCH)
 - o Physical Downlink Control Channel (PDCCH)
 - o Common Control Physical Channel (CCPCH)
- Physical channels are mapped to specific transport channels.
- Transport channels are SAPs for higher layers.
- Each physical channel has defined algorithms for: Bit scrambling , Modulation, Layer mapping , CDD precoding, Resource element assignment Layer mapping and pre-coding are related to MIMO applications.

6.7.4 Transport Channels

Transport channels are included in the LTE PHY and act as service access points (SAPs) for higher layers.

Downlink Transport channels

1. **Broadcast Channel (BCH)**
 - Fixed format
 - Must be broadcast over entire coverage area of cell
2. **Downlink Shared Channel (DL-SCH)**
 - Supports Hybrid ARQ (HARQ)
 - Supports dynamic link adaption by varying modulation, coding and transmit power

- Suitable for transmission over entire cell coverage area
- Suitable for use with beam forming
- Support for dynamic and semi-static resource allocation
- Support for discontinuous receive (DRX) for power save

3. Paging Channel (PCH)

- Support for UE DRX
- Requirement for broadcast over entire cell coverage area
- Mapped to dynamically allocated physical resources

4. Multicast Channel (MCH)

- Requirement for broadcast over entire cell coverage area
- Support for MB-SFN
- Support for semi-static resource allocation

6.7.5 Mapping Downlink Physical Channels to Transport Channels

Transport channels are mapped to physical channels as shown in Fig. 6.7.2 Supported transport channels are :

1. Broadcast channel (BCH)

2. Paging channel (PCH)

3. Downlink shared channel(DL-SCH)

4. Multicast channel (MCH)

Transport channels provide the following functions :

- Structure for passing data to/from higher layers
- Mechanism by which higher layers can configure the PHY
- Status indicators (packet error, CQI etc.) to higher layers
- Support for higher-layer peer-to-peer signaling

6.8 Self Organizing Network (SON-LTE)

- SON stands for Self Organizing Network.
- It means that just add an eNB wherever you want to put and just connect power and switch on, it would configure all of its configuration by itself and makes itself ready for service.
- SON is like a 'Plug-and-Play' functionality.
- Normally when a system operator constructs a network, they go through following steps.
 - (i) Network Planning
 - (ii) Bring the hardware (e.g., eNB) to the locations determined at Network Planning Process
 - (iii) Hardware installation
 - (iv) Basic configuration
 - (v) Optimizing parameters
- The main goal of SON is to automate large portions of human efforts involved in above mentioned process.
- In a more general way SON frame work can be illustrated in Fig. 6.8.1.

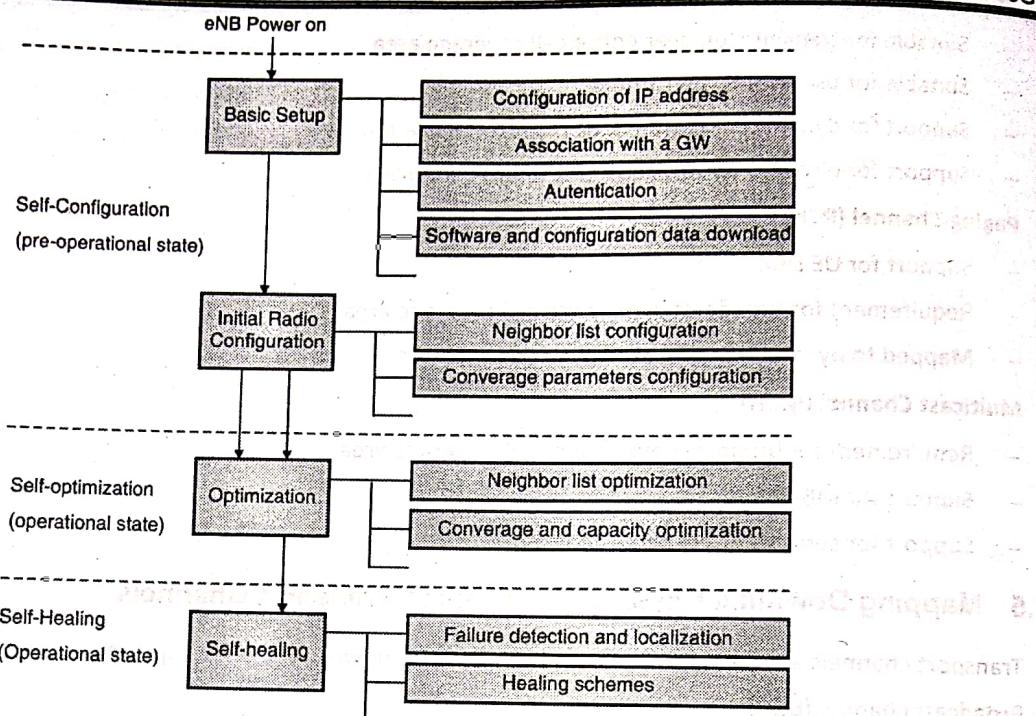


Fig. 6.8.1 : SON Framework

SON Architectures

- The self-organization functionality can be located at one place even split in different nodes.
- Self-Optimization algorithms can be located in OAM or eNB or both of them.
- According to the location of optimization algorithms, SON can be divided into the three main architectures:
 1. Centralized SON
 2. Distributed SON
 3. Hybrid SON
- The all three versions differ with respect to data acquisition, data processing and configuration management.

1. Centralized SON

 - In Centralized SON, optimization algorithms are stored and executed from the OAM System. Here, the SON functionality resides in a small number of locations, at a high level in the architecture.
 - Fig. 6.8.2 shows an example of Centralized SON. Here, all SON functions are located in OAM systems, so it is easy to deploy them but does not support those simple and quick optimization cases.
 - To implement Centralized SON, existing Northbound Interface (Itf-N), which is the interface between the Element Manager and the Network Manager, needs to be extended.
 - Also, as the number of nodes in the network increases, computational requirements will also increase, which might cause problems in scalability.

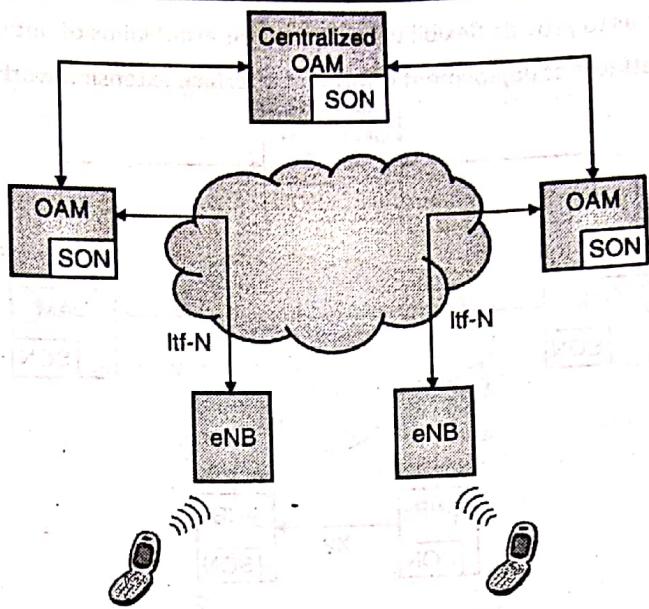


Fig. 6.8.2 : Centralized SON

2. Distributed SON

- In Distributed SON, optimization algorithms are executed in eNBs. SON functionality resides in many locations at a relatively low level in the architecture.
- This increases the deployment efforts.
- Fig. 6.8.3 shows an example of Distributed SON. When this architecture is implemented in large number of nodes, it has to be ensured that there is a coordination between them so that the network as a whole is optimised.

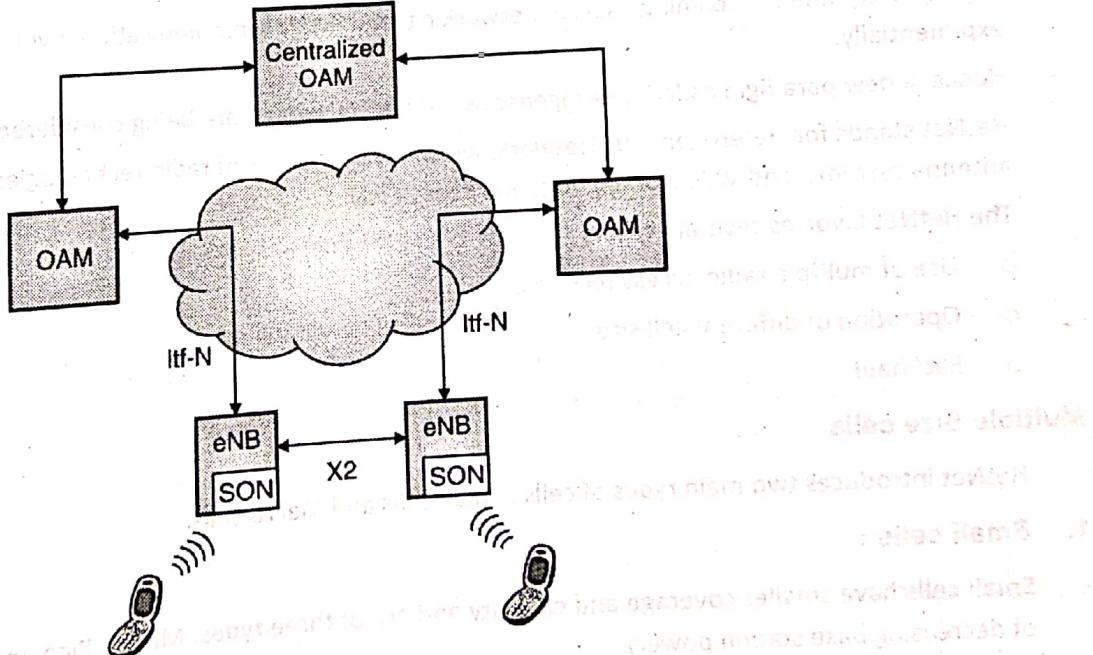


Fig. 6.8.3 : Distributed SON

3. Hybrid SON

- In Hybrid SON, part of the optimization algorithms are executed in the OAM system, while others are executed in eNB.
- Fig. 6.8.4 shows an example of Hybrid SON.
- In Hybrid SON, simple and quick optimization schemes are implemented in eNB and complex optimization schemes



are implemented in OAM so as to provide flexibility to support different kinds of optimization cases.

- But on the other hand, it costs lots of deployment effort and interface extension work.

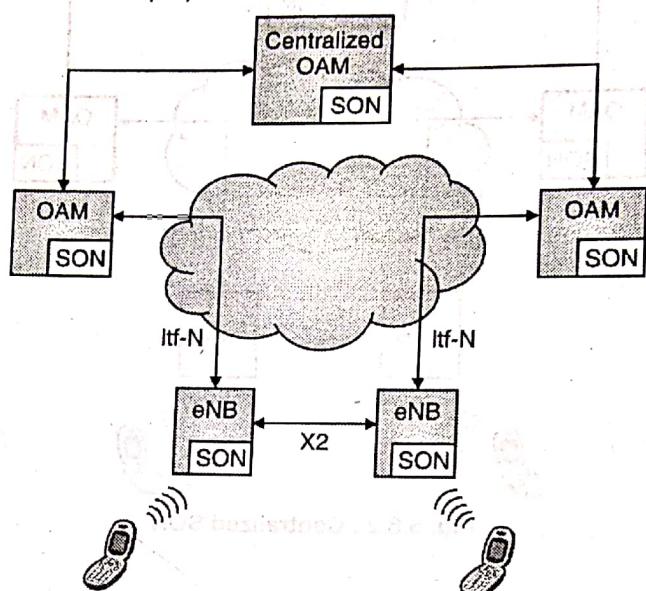


Fig. 6.8.4 : Hybrid SON

6.9 SON for Heterogeneous Networks (HetNet)

- It is assumed that there will be 50 billion connected devices by 2020. Demands for higher data rates continues to increase.
- High-quality video streaming, social networking and M2M communication over wireless networks are growing exponentially.
- Hence, a new paradigm called heterogeneous networks (HetNet) are being considered by network operators.
- HetNet stands for Heterogeneous Network, which involves a mix of radio technologies, different cell types, distributed antenna systems, and WiFi working together seamlessly.

The HetNet involves several aspects :

- o Use of multiple radio access technologies
- o Operation of different cell sizes
- o Backhaul

Multiple Size cells

HetNet introduces two main types of cells : Small cells and Macro cells.

1. Small cells :

- Small cells have smaller coverage and capacity and are of three types. Micro , Pico and Femto cells. (Listed as in order of decreasing base station power).
- The idea of merging small cells with the macro cell network has the advantage of offloading traffic from the macro cell sites to the smaller cells while the macro cell operates at its normal capacity.
- Table 6.9.1 compared all the cells based on certain characteristics.

Table 6.9.1 : Properties of different cells

Characteristics	Femto	Pico	Micro	Macro
Indoor/Outdoor	Indoor	Indoor or out door	Out door	Outdoor
Number of users	4 to 16	32 to 100	200	200 to 1000++
Maximum output power	20 to 100mW	250 mW	2 to 10 W	40 to 100 W
Maximum cell radius	10 to 50 m	200 m	2km	10 to 40 km
Bandwidth	10 MHz	20 MHz	20 to 40 MHz	60 to 75 MHz
Technology	3G/4G/WiFi	3G/4G/WiFi	3G/4G/WiFi	3G/4G
Backhauls	DSL, Cable, fiber	Microwave, millimeter wave	Fiber, Microwave	Fiber, Microwave

- Small cells are deployed in hotspots to increase capacity. Hotspots are the areas where user density is more. They are also deployed to fill in the areas not covered by the macro network (E.g. cell edges) – both out doors and indoors.
- These small cells can also be deployed within the user premises, residential or official, thereby bringing the network closer to the customer.

(i) Microcells

- Microcells, typically cover smaller areas maybe up to a kilometre.
- They usually transmit within a range of milliwatts to a few watts.
- Microcells are deployed for providing temporary cellular coverage and capacity to places like sports stadiums, convention centres etc.
- Sometimes, microcells may use distributed antenna systems (DAS) to improve bandwidth and reliability.

(ii) Pico Cells

- Pico cells are deployed on the macro cell edges or hotspots to improve coverage or throughput.
- Pico cells are open to all User Equipments (UEs)
- Pico cells can be used for both indoor and outdoor purpose.
- This coverage area is around 200m. And us usually they served around 32 to 100 users.

(iii) Femto Cells

- Femto cells are typically user-installed to improve coverage area within a small vicinity, such as home office or a dead zone within a building.
- Femto cells can be obtained through the service provider or purchased from a reseller.
- Femto cells are open to specific UEs – called CSG (Closed Subscription group).
- A UE close to femto can't connect to femto if it is not in CSG. In that case it connects to macro instead.
- Femto cell usually serves to 4 to 16 users.
- Its coverage area is 10 to 50 m.

2. Macro cells

Macro cells have large coverage and capacity and are controlled by High power base stations. These are the cells which have been traditionally used in all cellular systems.

Base stations in HetNets

- Heterogeneous networks consist of different types of base stations supporting different types of cells such as Macro, Micro, Pico and Femto cells.
 - o Macro cells are controlled by High Power eNBs.



- Small Cells (Micro, Pico and Femto) are controlled by Low power eNBs. Low Power nodes include micro, pico, Remote Radio Heads (RRH), relay nodes and femto nodes.
 - These can use the same or different technologies.
 - In LTE networks, the actual cell size depends not only on the eNodeB power but also on antenna position, as well as the location environment; e.g. rural or city, indoor or outdoor etc.
 - Different nodes, for small cells, used in LTE/LTE-A HetNets are listed below :
1. **Home eNodeB (HeNB)**
 - These nodes are used to form Femto cells.
 - It is a low power eNodeB which is mainly used to provide indoor coverage, for Closed Subscriber Groups (CSG). For example, in office premises.
 - HeNBs are privately owned and deployed without coordination with the macro-network.
 2. **Relay Node (RN)**
 - Relay 4 interface Uu.
 3. **RRHs (Remote Radio Head)**
 - RRH is connected to an eNB via fibre can also be used to provide small cell coverage.
 - It is an alternative solution to a BTS housed in a shelter at the bottom of the tower.
 - It is a distributed base station, in which the majority of the base station equipment is no longer located in the shelter, but in an enclosure at the top of the tower near the antenna.
 - This separate but integrated radio frequency (RF) unit is called a remote radio unit or remote radio head.
 - It is compact in size. RRH is generally used to extend the coverage of a base station sub-system in the remote rural areas.
 - Fig. 6.9.1 shows the typical HetNet architecture.

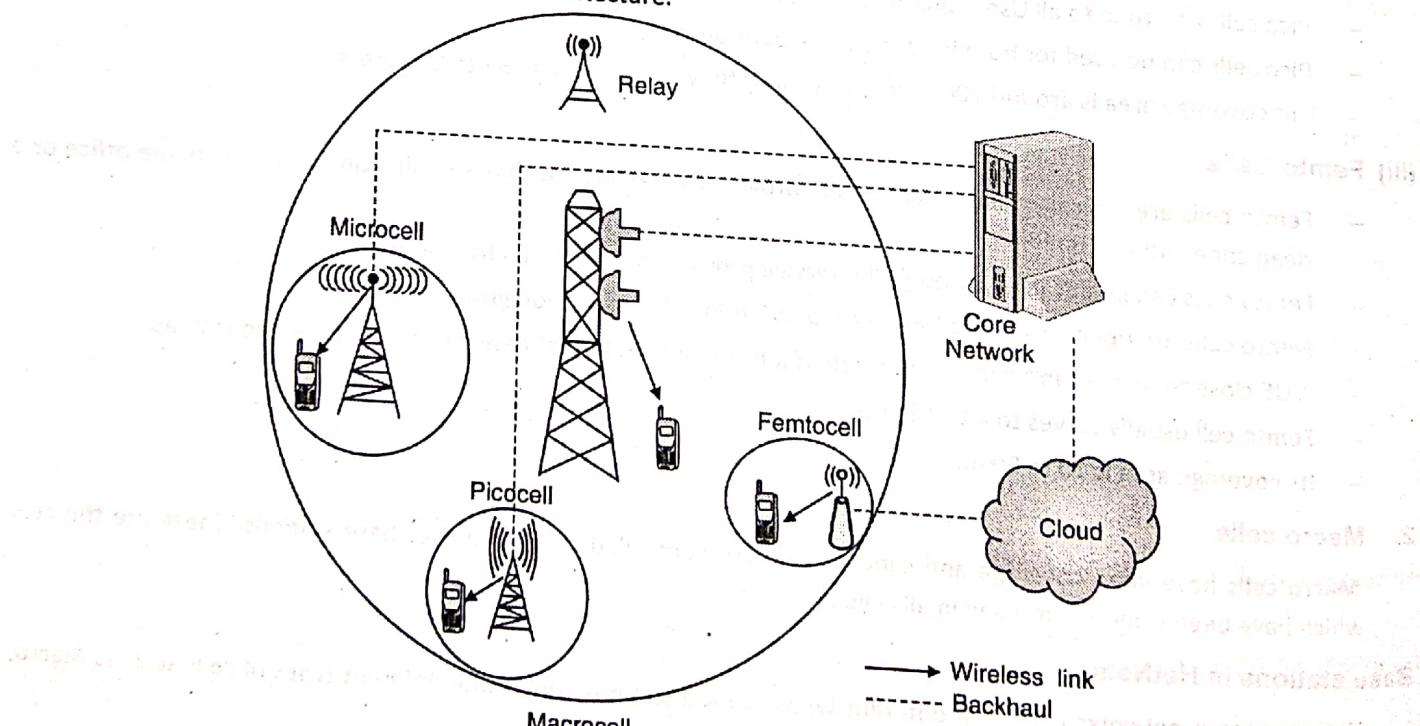


Fig. 6.9.1 : Heterogeneous Network Architecture

- A key component of such heterogeneous networks, which helps in meeting the above requirements is network intelligence via the SON (Self Organizing Network).
- SON is automation technology that enables the network to set itself up and self-manage resources and configuration to achieve optimal performance in an integrated network approach.
- The self-organizing and self-optimizing capability of the small cell smoothen the path for implementation of such heterogeneous networks.
- A self-organizing micro base station can automatically detect the surrounding radio environment conditions and automatically plan and configure radio parameters such as frequency, scrambling code, and transmission power.
- A traditional base station cannot do this.

6.10 Introduction to 5G

6.10.1 Overview

- 5G is not just one technology, it is actually a combination of several technologies in one. The system, however, will be a smart and know when to make use of which technology for maximum efficiency.
- 5G will be much more faster than 4G. It will provide data rate up to 10Gbps.
- It will provide 100% coverage area. That is better coverage even at the cell boundaries.
- 5G will also provide low network latency (up to 1 msec) which will be helpful for the critical applications like industry, healthcare and medical.
- 5G technology aims to provide wide range of future industries from retail to education, transportation to entertainment and smart homes to healthcare.
- 5G technology will provide ubiquitous connectivity means everything. from vehicles to mobile networks to industries to smart homes will be connected together.
- 5G will utilize Extremely High frequency spectrum band between 3GHz to 30 GHz. These are called millimetre waves. These wave can travel at very high speed but covers short distance since they cannot penetrate obstacles.
- Unlike 4G that requires high powered cellular base stations to transmit signal over long distance, 5G will use a large number of small cell stations that may be located on small towers or building roofs.
- 5G makes the use of Massive MIMO (Multiple Input Multiple Output) standards to make it 100 times faster as opposed to standard MIMO. Massive MIMO makes the use of as much as 100 antennas. Multiple antennas allow for better and faster data transmission.
- The 5G network will come with 100 times more devices in market.

5G standards

- 5G technology standard are still under development. So, no firm standards is in place at this time; the market is still figuring out the essential 5G features and functionalities.
- The primary 5G standards bodies involved in these processes are the 3rd Generation Partnership Project (3GPP), the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF), and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).



6.10.2 5GAA (Autonomous Association)

- The 5G Automotive Association (5GAA) is a global, cross-industry organization of companies that work together to develop end-to-end solution for future mobility and transportation services.
- These companies include the automotive, technology, and telecommunications industries (ICT).
- 5GAA was created on September 2016. It consists of 8 founding members: AUDI AG, BMW Group, Daimler AG, Ericsson, Huawei, Intel, Nokia, and Qualcomm Incorporated. More than 110 companies have now joined 5GAA.
- The 5G Automotive Association is a strong advocate of Cellular-Vehicle 2X (C-V2X). The following are the key objectives of 5GAA.

1. Making vehicles smarter

- Communication and connectivity are key to the development of autonomous vehicles.
- Cellular based technologies V2X : vehicle-to-everything communication protocol allows vehicles to communicate with other vehicles (V2V), pedestrians (V2P), networks (V2N), and the surrounding infrastructure (V2I).

2. Making Vehicle Safer

- Cellular Vehicle-to-Everything (C-V2X) is a unified connectivity platform designed to offer vehicle-to-vehicle (V2V), vehicle-to-roadside infrastructure (V2I) and vehicle-to-pedestrian (V2P) communication.
- C-V2X will improve safety on roads by tremendously facilitating the flow of information between vehicles, pedestrians and road infrastructure. This will enable connected vehicles to anticipate and avoid dangerous situations, reducing collisions and potentially saving lives.

3. Improving driving experience

- C-V2X will provide real-time traffic information to optimize user's trip, finding the closest free parking space or enabling predictive maintenance to save drivers both time and money.

6.10.3 The Key Technology : C-V2X (Cellular - Vehicle To everything)

Cellular-V2X (C-V2X) as initially defined as LTE V2X in 3GPP Release 14 is designed to operate in several modes.

It provides one solution for integrated V2V, V2I and V2P operation with V2N by using existing cellular network infrastructure :

1. Device-to-Device Communication

- Device-to-device communication is Vehicle-to-Vehicle (V2V), Vehicle-to-(Roadway) Infrastructure (V2I) and Vehicle-to-Pedestrian (V2P) direct communication.
- In the device-to-device mode (V2V, V2I, V2P) operation, C-V2X does not necessarily require any network infrastructure. It can operate without a SIM, without network assistance and uses GNSS as its primary source of time synchronization.

2. Device-to-Cell Tower Communication

Device-to-cell tower is another communication link which enables network resources and scheduling and utilizes existing operator infrastructure.

3. Device-to-Network Communication

- Device-to-network is the V2N solution using traditional cellular links to enable cloud services to be part and parcel of the end-to-end solution.

- Collectively, the transmission modes of shorter-range direct communications (V2V, V2I, V2P) and longer-range network-based communications (V2N) comprise what we call Cellular-V2X.

6.10.4 Applications of 5G Network

5GAA focuses on more than simply providing faster data rate. 5G technology aims to provide wide range of future industries from retail to education, transportation to entertainment and smart homes to healthcare.

1. High Speed Mobile Networks

- 5G will revolutionize the mobile experience with data rate up to 10 to 20 GBPS download speed. It is equivalent to a fiber optic Internet connection accessed wirelessly.
- Another important feature of 5G technology is Low latency which is significant for autonomous driving and mission critical applications. 5G networks are capable of latency less than a millisecond.

2. Entertainment and Multimedia

- Almost 50 percentage of mobile Internet traffic is used for video downloads globally. This trend will increase in future and high definition video streaming will be common in future.
- 5G will offer a high definition virtual world on your mobile phone. Live events can be streamed via wireless network with high definition.
- HD TV channels can be accessed on mobile devices without any interruptions. Entertainment industry will hugely benefit from 5G wireless networks. Augmented reality and virtual reality requires HD video with low latency. 5G network is powerful enough to power AR and VR with amazing virtual experience.

3. Internet of Things - Connecting everything

- Internet of Things (IoT) is another broad area that will use 5G wireless network. Internet of Things will connect every objects, appliances, sensors, devices and applications into Internet.
- IoT applications will collect huge amount of data from millions of devices and sensors. 5G is the most efficient candidate for Internet of Things due to its flexibility, unused spectrum availability and low cost solutions for deployment.
- IoT can benefit from 5G networks in many areas like: Smart Homes, Smart Cities, Industrial IoT, Fleet Management etc.

4. Virtual reality and Augmented Reality

As Virtual reality (VR) and Augmented Reality (AR) needs faster data rate, low latency and reliability. 5G networks will unlock the potentials of VR and AR.

6.10.5 Millimeter Wave

- We all know that frequency spectrum is a scarce resource. The existing bands are crowded. One way to get around this problem is to simply transmit signals on a whole new swath of the spectrum, one that's never been used for mobile service before.
- So now, all 5G service providers are experimenting with broadcasting on millimeter waves. Millimeter waves are higher frequency waves than the radio waves. Millimeter wave is the band of spectrum between 30 gigahertz (GHz) and 300 GHz (Extremely High Frequency). It lies between the super high frequency (SHF) band, and the far infrared (IR) band. They are called millimeter waves because their wavelength vary from 1 to 10 mm, compared to the radio waves that serve today's smartphones. The radio wave wavelength is in tens of centimeters.
- Millimetre waves were first investigated in the 1890s by Indian scientist Jagadish Chandra Bose.



- Until now, only operators of satellites and radar systems used millimeter waves for real-world applications.
- There is one major drawback to millimeter waves, though – they can't easily travel through buildings or obstacles and they can be absorbed by foliage and rain. That's why 5G networks will likely augment traditional cellular towers with another new technology, called small cells.

Review Questions

- Q. 1** With a neat sketch explain SAE architecture.
- Q. 2** What is the need of VoLTE. Explain VoLTE in details.
- Q. 3** What additional features does LTE advanced contain compared to LTE? Explain LTE-A architecture in detail.
- Q. 4** Explain protocol stack of LTE.
- Q. 5** What are the functions of LTE – MAC layer? Explain in detail.
- Q. 6** Explain the Generic frame structure of LTE.
- Q. 7** Explain different transport and logical channels used by LTE.
- Q. 8** What do you mean by Self Organizing Networks? Explain SOIN architecture.
- Q. 9** What are heterogeneous networks? Explain HetNet architecture in details.
- Q. 10** What are the applications of 5G networks? What is millimeter wave?
- Q. 11** Compare between LTE and LTE Advanced.