

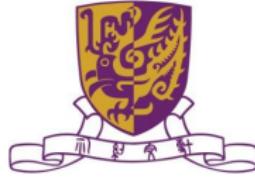
# Economics of TV White Space Networks

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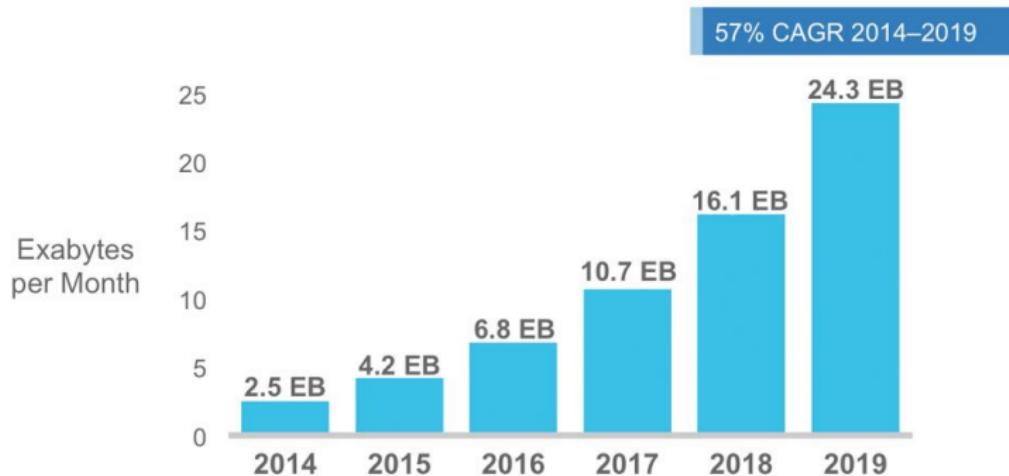
# Outline

## ① Introduction

## ② Technical Issues

## ③ Business Models

# Mobile Data Explosion

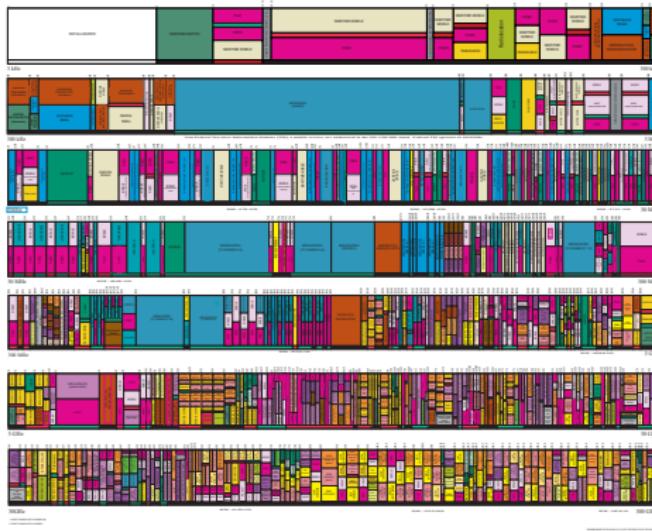


*Global Mobile Data Traffic, 2014 to 2019 (from [Cisco VNI](#))*

- Mobile data traffic explosive growth: 57% annual grow rate
- Need more **spectrum resource** to support wireless broadband services.

# Radio Spectrum Scarcity

## UNITED STATES FREQUENCY ALLOCATIONS THE RADIO SPECTRUM

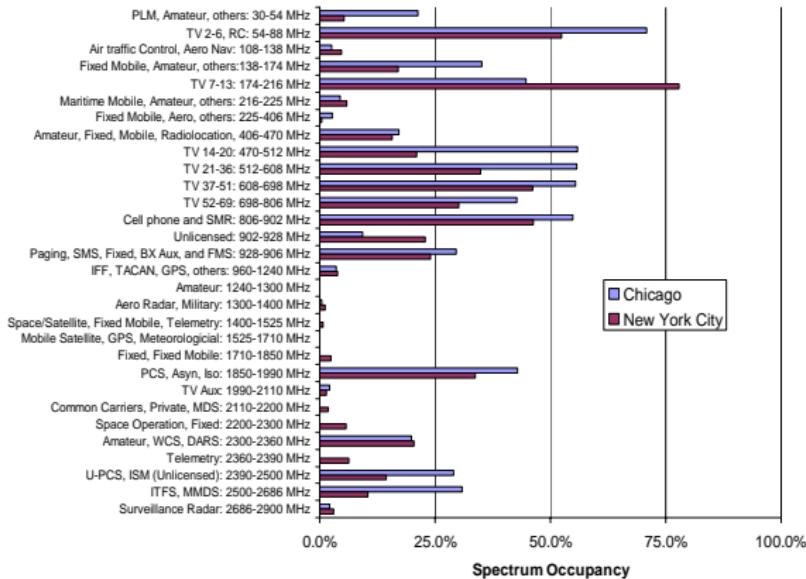


Frequency Allocation Chart in USA (from [NITA](#))

- Spectrum resource is very **limited**.

# Spectrum Usage Inefficiency

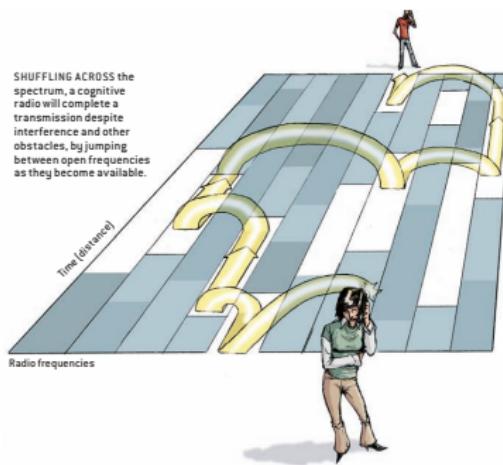
Measured Spectrum Occupancy in Chicago and New York City



- Licensed radio spectrums are under-utilized (on average < 25%)

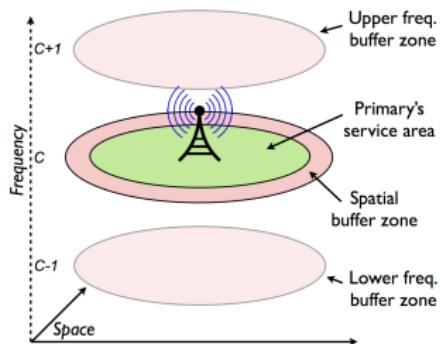
# Dynamic Spectrum Sharing (DSS)

- A **promising** approach to provide more spectrum resources
- Enable **unlicensed** devices to share the licensed spectrum bands in an **opportunistic** manner;
- Improve the spectrum utilization **efficiency** without affecting the licensed operations;



# An Example of DSS: Sharing TV White Space

- Under-utilized TV bands
  - ▶ Licensed to certain TV licensee but **not fully utilized**;
  - ▶ Example: The band “C” is licensed within the disk area (**granted and exclusive usage**).
- Unassigned TV bands
  - ▶ **Not licensed** to any TV licensee at a certain location;
  - ▶ Example: The band “C” is not licensed out of the disk area (**license-exempt and shared usage**).



# Advantages of Using TV White Space

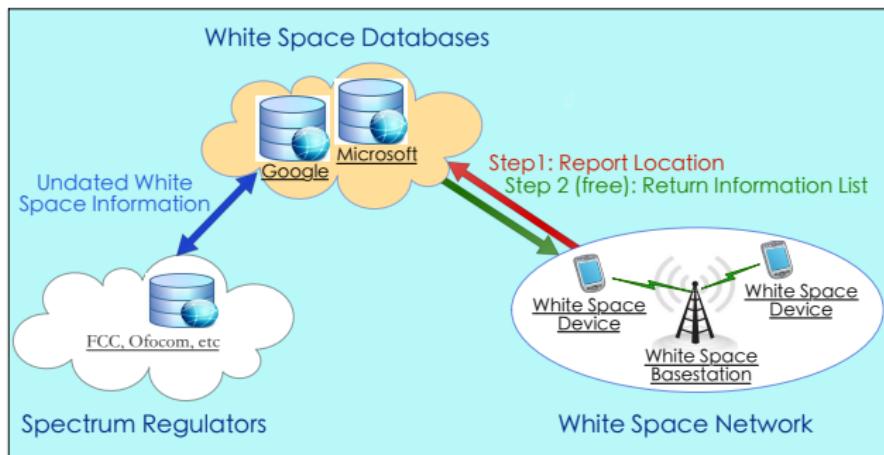
- Why TV White Space?
  - ▶ Wide Bandwidth
    - ★ More than 280 MHz in USA
  - ▶ Excellent Propagation
    - ★ Low frequency band
    - ★ Strong penetration capability
    - ★ Large transmission distance
- Potential Application — Super WiFi
  - ▶ Rural broadband/backhaul
  - ▶ Sensor networks
  - ▶ Indoor video distribution
  - ▶ M2M communications

# Realization of TV White Space Network

- Database-Assisted TV White Space Network
  - ▶ Unlicensed devices obtain the available TV white space information through querying a certified database (instead of only relying on sensing);
- Supported by many regulators, standards bodies, industrial organizations, and major IT companies;
  - ▶ Regulators: FCC in USA, Ofcom in UK, IDA in Singapore, IC in Canada, etc.;
  - ▶ Standards: IEEE 802.22, IEEE 802.11af;
  - ▶ Companies: Google, Microsoft, SpectrumBridge, etc.

# Database-Assisted TV White Space Network

- Database updates **TV licensees** information periodically;
- Database helps unlicensed users identify **available TV white spaces**;
  - ▶ Step 1: White space devices report their locations to a database;
  - ▶ Step 2: Database returns the available white spaces at a given location;



Architecture of Database-Assisted TV White Space Network (by FCC, Ofcom)

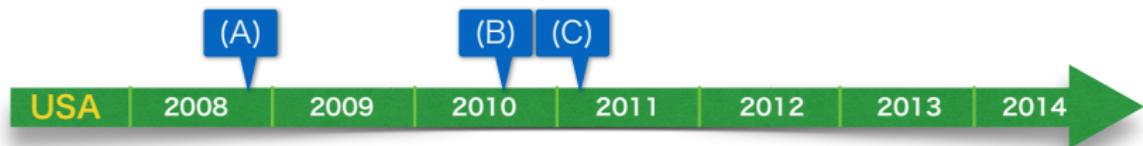
# Unlicensed Users: White Space Device (WSD)

- Ofcom Framework (UK): Master and Slave WSDs
  - ▶ Master WSD: Geo-localization capability  
*(Communicate directly with a database for available TV white space)*
  - ▶ Slave WSD: No requirement of geo-localization capability  
*(Served and under the control of a master WSD)*
- FCC Framework (USA): Fixed and Portable WSDs
  - ▶ Fixed WSD: 30 meter height limit, fixed location  
*(Communicate directly with a database for available TV white space)*
  - ▶ Portable WSD: No height limit, mobility  
*(Mode 2: Communicate directly with a database; Mode 1: Served and under the control of a mode 2 device)*

# Regulatory Policy

- Policy of FCC in USA

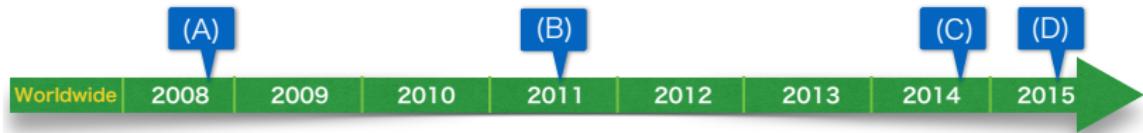
- ▶ (A) Nov 2008, FCC **approved** the unlicensed use of TV white spaces;
- ▶ (B) Sep 2010, FCC **determined the final rules** for the use of TV white space (advocating database and removing sensing);
- ▶ (C) Jan 2011, FCC conditionally **designated 9 companies** (including Google, Spectrum Bridge, Microsoft) to serve as geo-location white space databases in USA.



# Regulatory Policy

- Policy of Other Countries

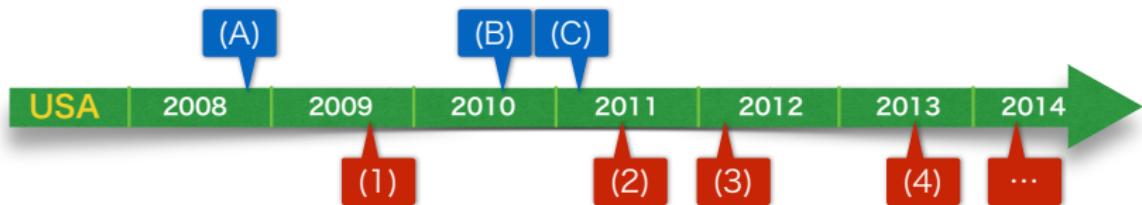
- ▶ (A) 2008, USA approved the unlicensed use of TV white spaces
- ▶ (B) 2011, Europe published a draft rule for using TV white spaces
- ▶ (C) 2014, Singapore approved the unlicensed use of TV white spaces
- ▶ (D) 2015, UK and Canada approved the unlicensed use of TV white spaces



# Trials & Demos

- Trial Systems in North America

- ▶ (1) Oct 2009, the **WhiteFi** network developed by Microsoft Research;
- ▶ (2) May 2011, a commercial **Super Wi-Fi network** was developed in Calgary based WestNet City;
- ▶ (3) Jan 2012, the United States **first public Super Wi-Fi network** was developed in Wilmington based SpectrumBridge;
- ▶ (4) July 2013, West Virginia University launches the first **campus Super WiFi network**



# Trials & Demos Summary



*TV white spaces trials and demonstrations (from Microsoft)*

- TV white space network is **being actively explored** in many countries.
  - ▶ Leading Countries: **USA** and **UK**

# Outline

1 Introduction

2 Technical Issues

3 Business Models

# Technical Issues

- Major Technical Challenges

- ▶ TVWS Availability Computation (for Database)
  - ★ How to accurately computes the available TV channels in a particular location [Dawei Chen et al. 2009] [Tan Zhang et al. 2014][Xuhang Ying et al. 2013]
  - ★ Most important technical issue, Different in UK and USA

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- ▶ WSD Development
  - ★ How to design and standardize white space device (WSD)

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  - ★ How to deploy and optimize a database-assisted TV white space network [Xiaojun Feng et al. 2011]

# TVWS Availability Computation in UK

- First Consideration — Interference

- ▶ Ensure low probability of harmful **interference** to licensees
  - ★ Digital Terrestrial Television (DTT) Services
  - ★ Programme Making and Special Events (PMSE) Usage

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- Information Required

- ▶ WSD Location
  - ★ Master devices are required to report their locations (with error);
  - ★ Slave devices are not required to report their location.

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  - ★ Represent by spatial pixels;
  - ★ Spatial resolution ( $100 \times 100 \text{ m}^2$ ) geographic squares (pixels).

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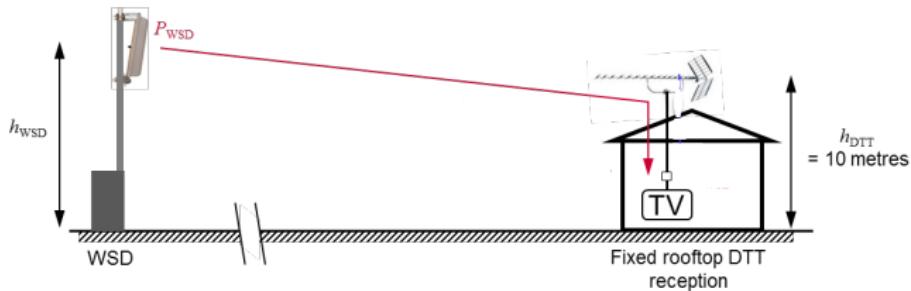
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  - ★ The operational channels of DTT/PMSE devices.

# TVWS Availability Computation in UK

## • DTT Protection

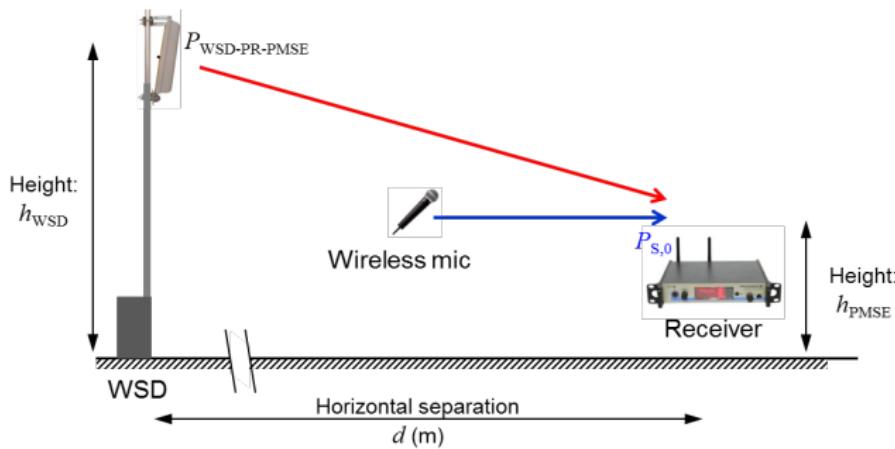
- ▶ Estimate the WSD's potential interference to DTT;
- ▶ Compute the available TV white space and maximum transmission power for WSDs (with location uncertainty);
  - ★ Locations of DTT
  - ★ Possible locations of WSDs
  - ★ Antenna Heights of DTT and WSDs
  - ★ Channel Usage of DTT



# TVWS Availability Computation in UK

## • PMSE Protection

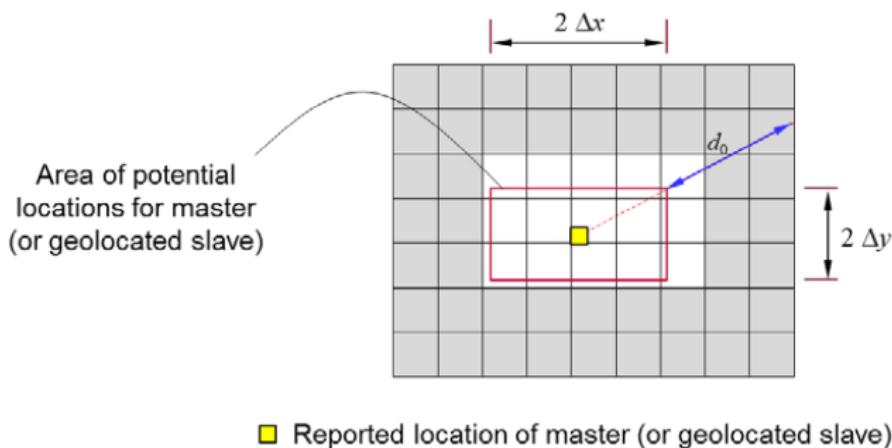
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  - ★ Possible locations of WSDs
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# TVWS Availability Computation in UK

- **Uncertainty (Error) of Master Location**

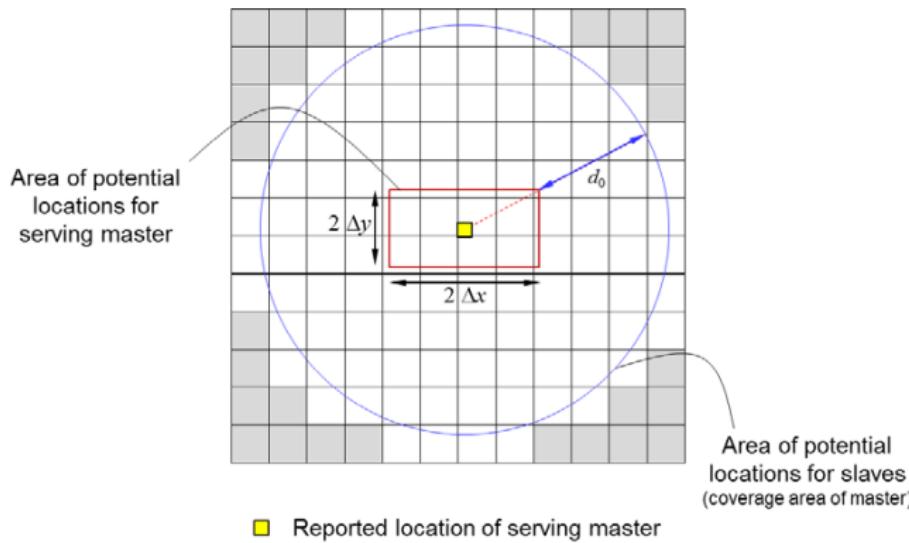
- ▶ Suppose a master reports location  $(x_0, y_0)$  with uncertainties  $(\pm \Delta x, \pm \Delta y)$ .
- ▶ Then, **possible locations** of the master:
  - ★ **Rectangle** centred on  $(x_0, y_0)$  with sides of length  $2\Delta x$  and  $2\Delta y$
  - ★ Cover a set of  $M$  pixels (see the Figure below  $M = 15$ )



# TVWS Availability Computation in UK

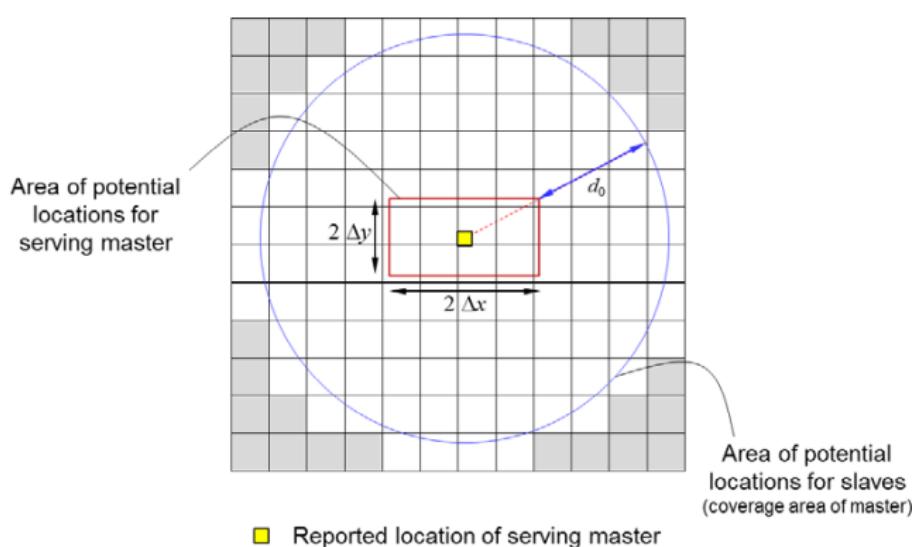
- **Uncertainty of Slave Location**

- ▶ Slaves are **not** required to report their locations to the master;
- ▶ Hence, **possible locations** of slaves are **whole coverage area** of master:
  - ★ Circle centred on  $(x_0, y_0)$  with radii  $d_0 + \sqrt{(\Delta x^2 + \Delta y^2)}$ ;
  - ★  $d_0$  is the transmission range of the master;
  - ★ Cover a set of  $N$  pixels (see the Figure below).



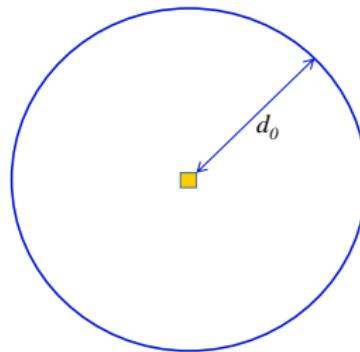
# TVWS Availability Computation in UK

- Available TV White Space
  - ▶ The TV white spaces that are available in all  $N$  pixels;
- Allowed Transmission Power (on each channel)
  - ▶ The **minimum** allowed transmission power in all  $N$  pixels.



# TVWS Availability Computation in USA

- The key idea in USA is **similar** as that in UK;
- **Differences**
  - ▶ Coverage range is measured by **smooth circle**, instead of pixels;
  - ▶ The available TV white space set for a WSD is **only base on its own location**, without considering the possible locations of its served WSDs (slaves):
    - ★ **More** available TV white spaces;
    - ★ **Less** transmission power constraints;
    - ★ **Higher** potential interference to licensees;



# WSD Design and Standard

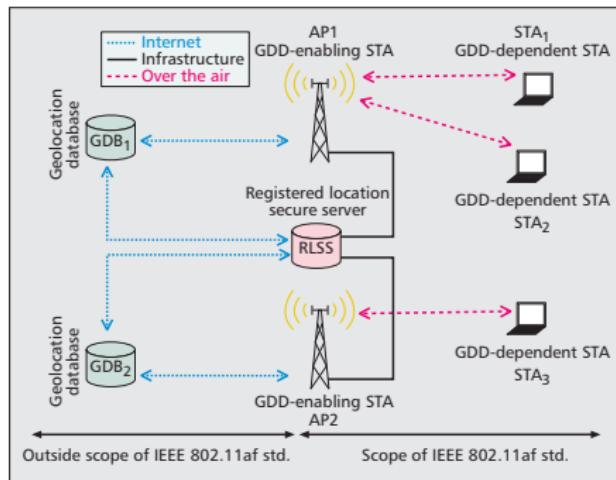
- European Telecom Standards Institute (**ETSI EN 203-598**)
  - ▶ Specify the **standards** that WSDs must comply with and test against;
  - ▶ Intend to be **harmonised** across Europe;
  - ▶ Specify the **technical requirements** for WSDs;
    - ★ Radio system
    - ★ Baseband system
    - ★ Mobility
    - ★ ....

4	Technical requirements specifications .....	12
4.1	Environmental profile.....	12
4.2	Conformance requirements .....	12
4.2.1	Equipment types .....	13
4.2.1.1	Equipment Type A .....	13
4.2.1.2	Equipment Type B .....	13

# Communication Standard

- IEEE 802.11af

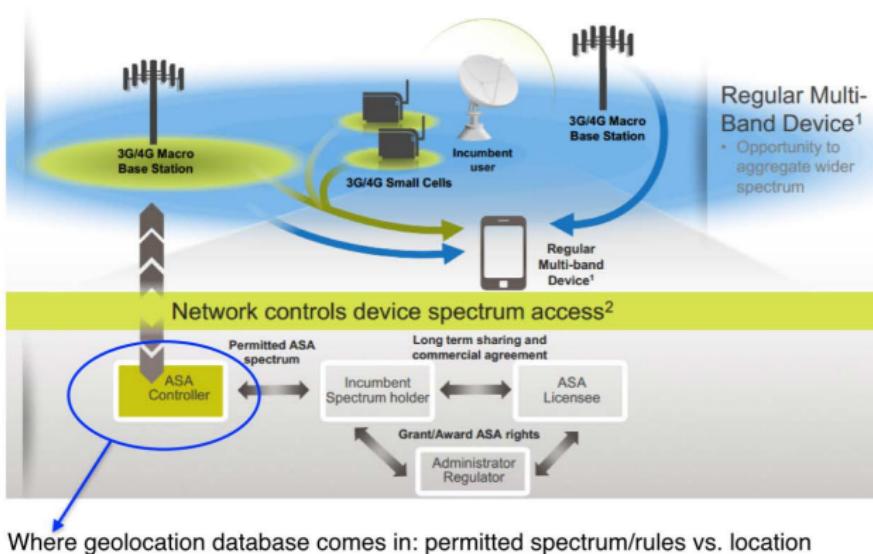
- Define modifications to both the 802.11 PHY and MAC layers to meet the legal requirements for channel access and coexistence in the TVWS



- IEEE 802.22

# Spectrum Management and Optimization

- The database assists **unlicensed** TV white space access;
  - ▶ Unlicensed Shared Access (USA)
- The database assists **licensed** spectrum access;
  - ▶ Licensed/Authorized Shared Access (LSA/ASA)



# Technical Issues

- Major Technical Challenges

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- ▶ Database Development
  - ★ How to design and manage a database [Vania Goncalves 2011] [Hanna Bogucka et al 2012]
- ▶ Communication between WSD and Database
  - ★ How does a **mobile** WSD identify the communication link [Z. Qin, Y. Gao, C. Parini, 2015]
- ▶ Others

# Outline

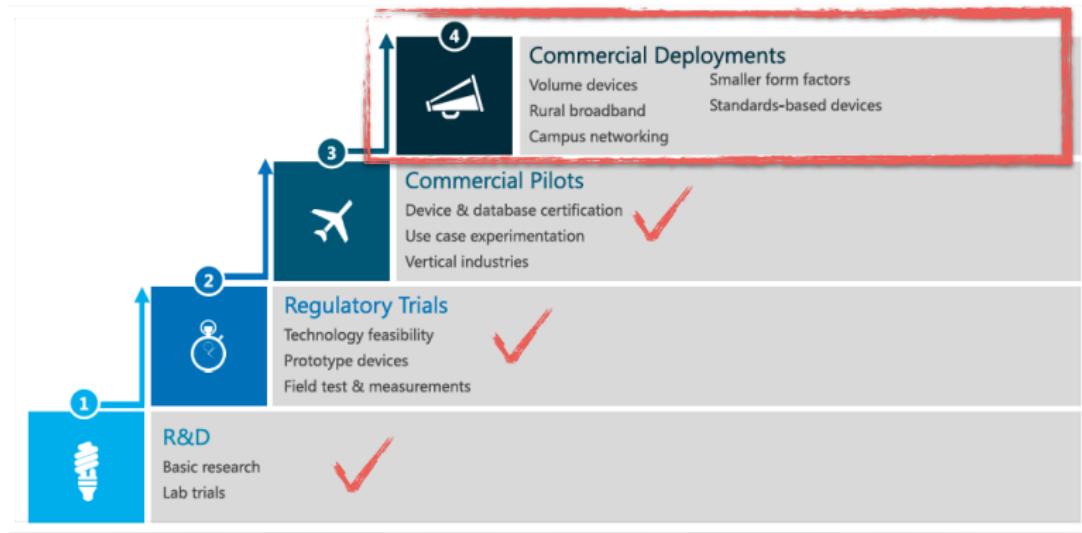
1 Introduction

2 Technical Issues

3 Business Models

# Current Status

- Fast **technology** development and **policy** change worldwide
- Lacking of a systematic **economics** analysis



# Economic Issues and Challenges

- **Economic issues**

- ▶ Who will be involved in a TV white space business model?
- ▶ What kind of services will be supported in such a network?
- ▶ How to design efficient mechanism to guarantee the economics performance with low implementation complexity?

# Economic Issues and Challenges

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- **Challenges**

- ▶ Heterogeneous TV white spaces
  - ★ licensed TV channels (Under-utilize): consider the licensee behavior
  - ★ Unlicensed TV channels: public resource and cannot be traded freely
- ▶ Heterogeneous database operators
  - ★ Different interests and advantages

# **Business Models of TVWS Networks**

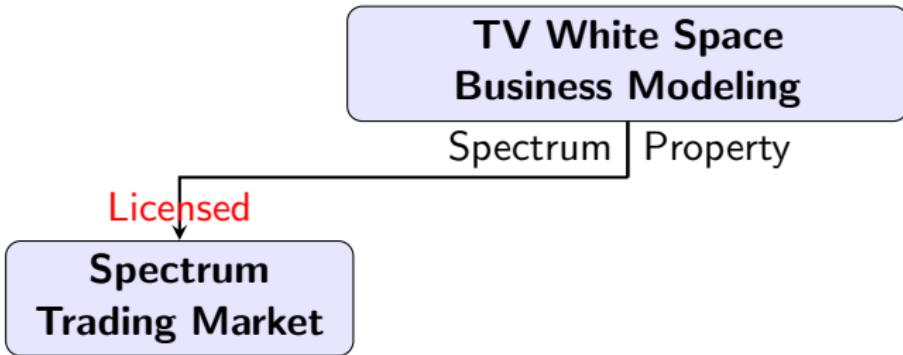
**TV White Space  
Business Modeling**

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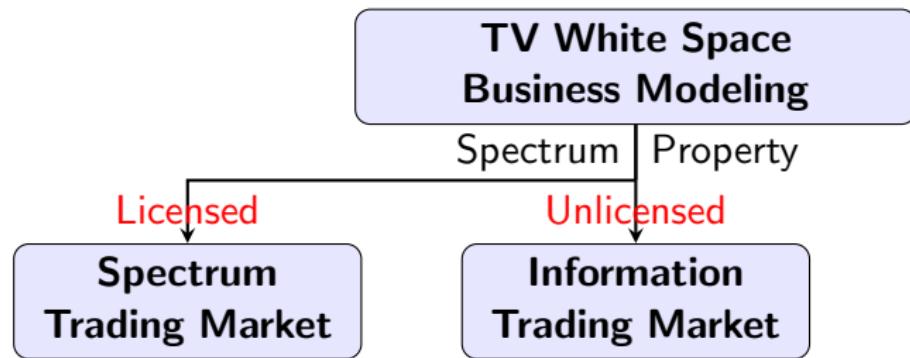
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Spectrum | Property

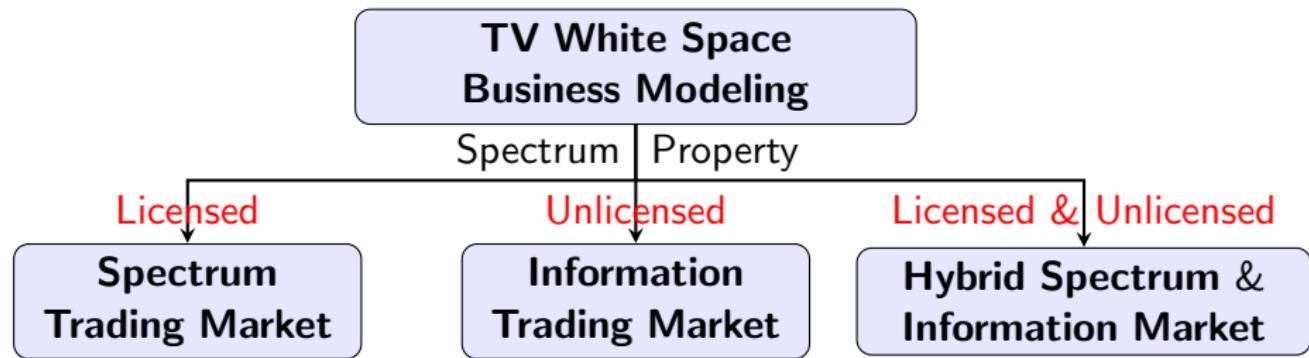
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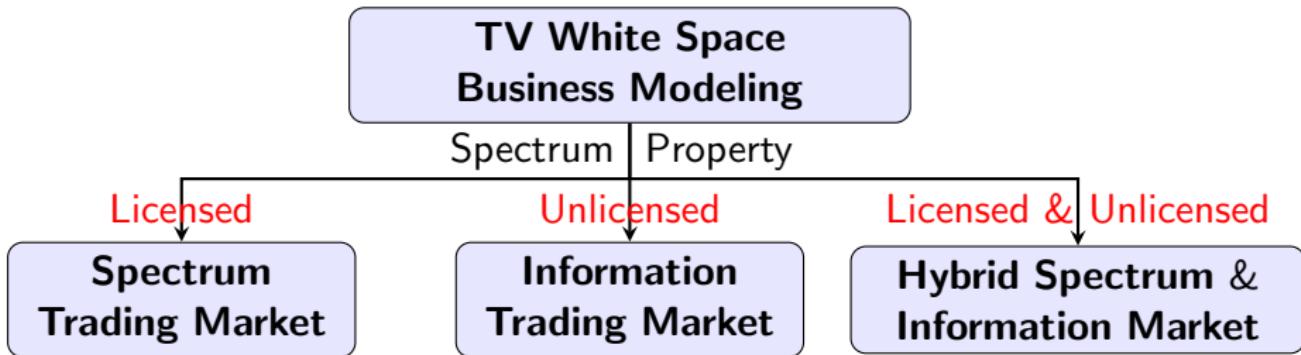
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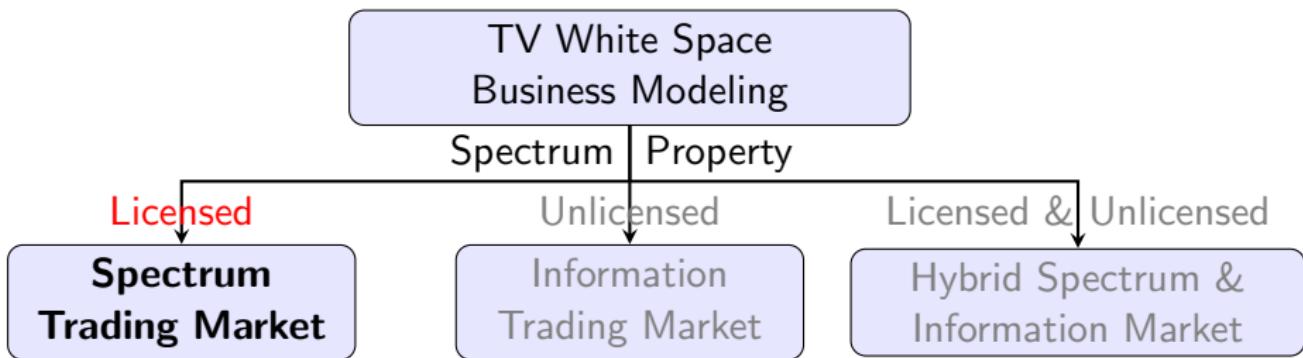
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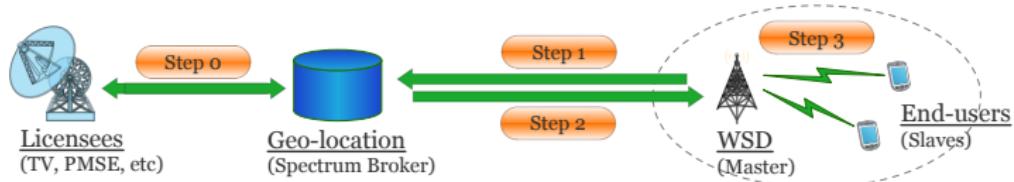
- **Key Focus**

- ▶ Define the **economics role** for each involved network entity;
- ▶ Analyze the **economic behaviours** of different players;
- ▶ Design the **efficient incentive mechanism** for the whole network.

# Business Models of TVWS Networks

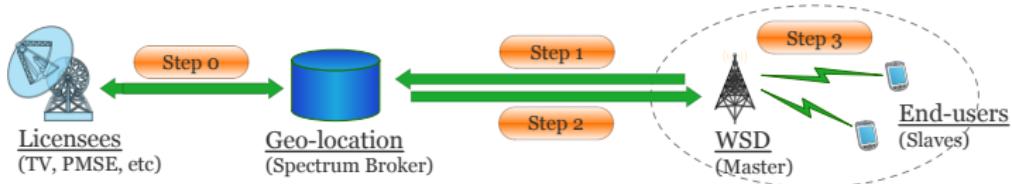


# Spectrum Trading Market



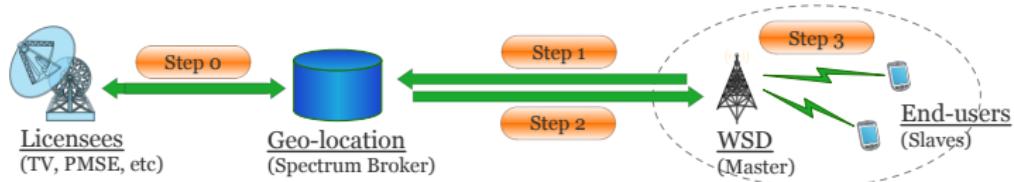
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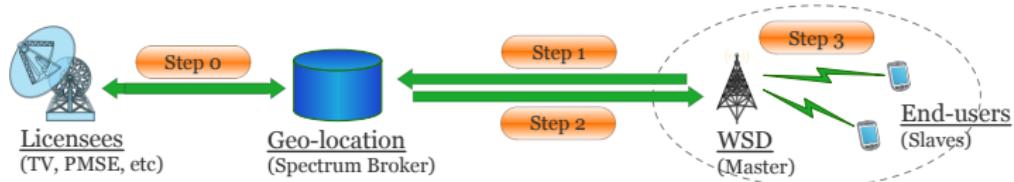
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- Each WSD is an infrastructure-based device (e.g., a base station)
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    - ★ Exclusive used by one WSD
    - ★ Be reserved by database **in advanced**
  - ▶ Unlicensed TV spectrum
    - ★ Shared by multiple white space devices (WSDs)
    - ★ Be requested in **real-time**

# Motivation

- **WSDs Competition Market**

- ▶ Multiple WSDs compete for the **same pool** of end-users
- ▶ WSDs serve the attracted end-users by using either the **licensed** TV spectrum or the **unlicensed** TV spectrum

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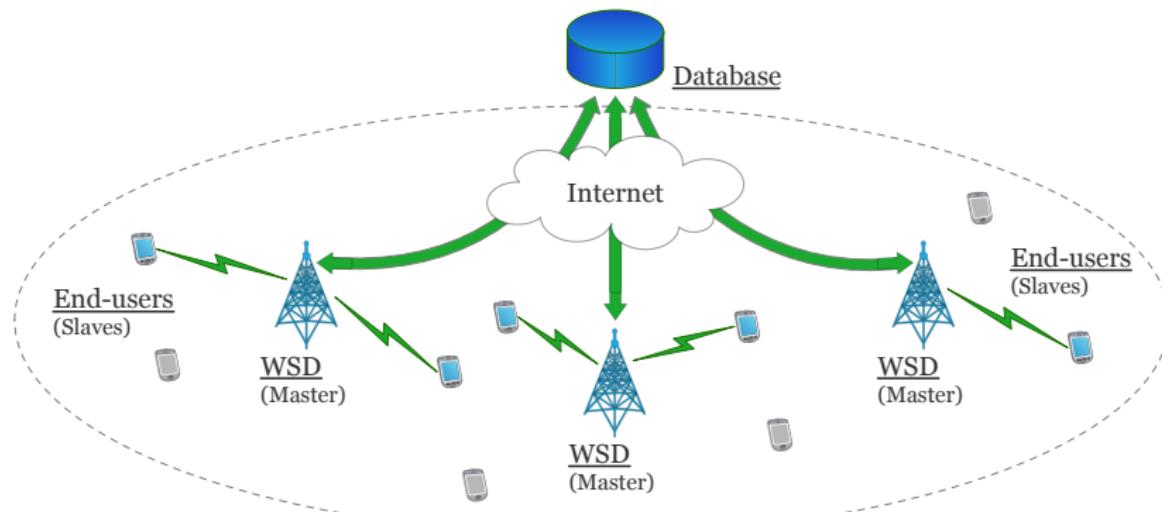
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## The Key Problems

- **Quantity Competition:** What is the optimal reserve quantity of licensed TV spectrum, considering the uncertainty of demand?
- **Price Competition:** What is the optimal prices of TV spectrum to the end-users?

# System Model

- Multiple WSDs **compete** for the same pool of end-users
- $\mathcal{M} = \{1, 2, \dots, M\}$ : the set of WSDs



# Three-Stage Interaction Model

## Stage I: Wholesale Price Determination

The database determines TV channels wholesale prices (i.e.,  $w$  for licensed TV spectrum and  $w^s$  for unlicensed TV spectrum).



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WSDs determines the initial inventory and the service price;



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## Stage III: Demand Realized and Replenishment

End-users choose a WSD, and demands service from that WSD;

WSDs replenish inventory by the unlicensed TV spectrum (if needed) and serve end-users;

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- Three-stage hierarchical model: analyzed by backward induction

## Stage III: Demand of End-users

- $d$ : total demand of all active end-users
  - ▶ Random variable with cumulative distribution function (c.d.f.)  $G(d)$

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- $d$ : total demand of all active end-users
  - ▶ Random variable with cumulative distribution function (c.d.f.)  $G(d)$
- $d_m$ : demand directed to WSD  $m$ 
  - ▶  $d_m(p_1, \dots, p_M) = d \cdot \theta_m(p_1, \dots, p_M)$ 
    - ★  $\theta_m(p_1, \dots, p_M)$ : an **average probability** of an end-user choosing an WSD  $m$

$$\theta_m = \Pr\left\{U_m^{\text{EU}} \geq 0 \text{ & } U_m^{\text{EU}} \geq \max_{i \in \mathcal{M}} U_i^{\text{EU}}\right\} = \frac{e^{R_m - p_m}}{1 + \sum_{i \in \mathcal{M}} e^{R_i - p_i}}.$$

- ★  $R_m$  is the **average benefit (quality of WSD)**
- ▶ Random variable related to **all WSD' prices**

## Stage II: Price and Inventory Competition Game

- Price and Inventory competition game (PI-game)
  - ▶ Players: WSDs with set  $\mathcal{M} = \{1, 2, \dots, M\}$
  - ▶ Strategies: Inventory  $b_m$  and price  $p_m$ ,  $\forall m \in \mathcal{M}$
  - ▶ Payoff of WSD  $m$ : revenue - cost

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  - ▶ This is an **integrated** investment and price competition game
  - ▶ Difficult to prove the uniqueness of Nash equilibrium **directly**

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- Our method
  - ▶ Change the PI-game to **a pure price competition game**

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### Theorem (Existence and Uniqueness)

- The reduced price game has a unique Nash Equilibrium  $\mathbf{p}^*$
- The original PI-game has unique NE  $(\mathbf{b}^*, \mathbf{p}^*)$

# Stage I: Wholesale Pricing Strategy

- Two kinds of wholesale pricing strategies
  - ▶ Database profit maximization (DPM)
    - ★ Profit-seeking database operator
    - ★ Operated by third-party business companies
    - ★ Maximizing his own profit

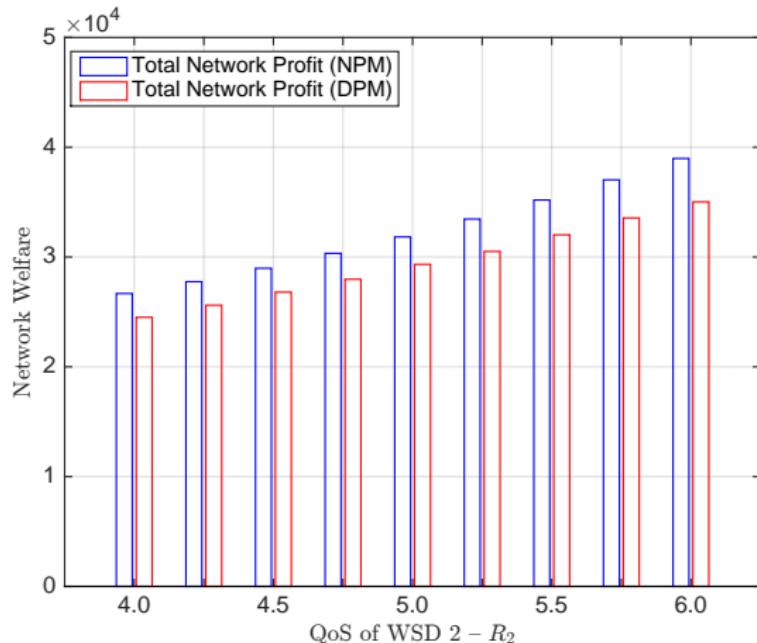
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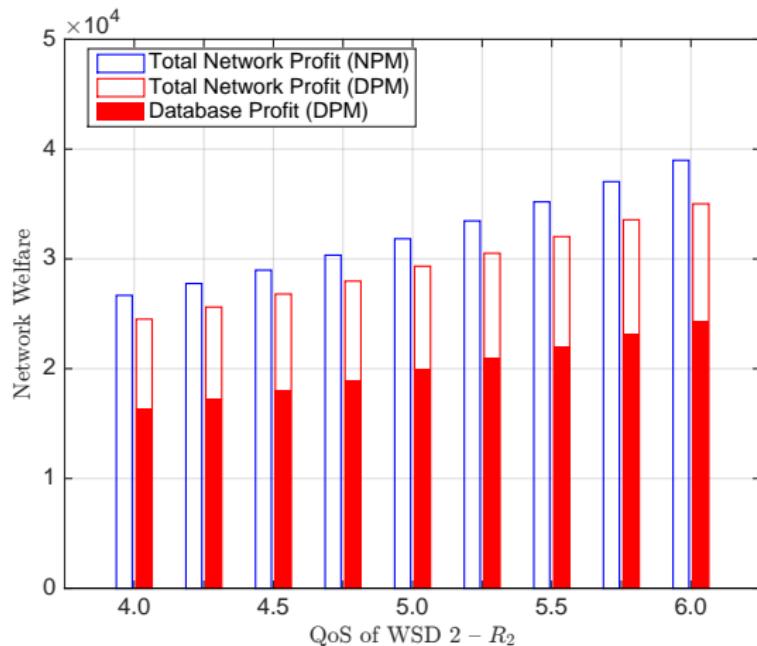
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- There exist a wholesale price pair that maximize the network profit/database's profit

# Simulation Results: Network Welfare



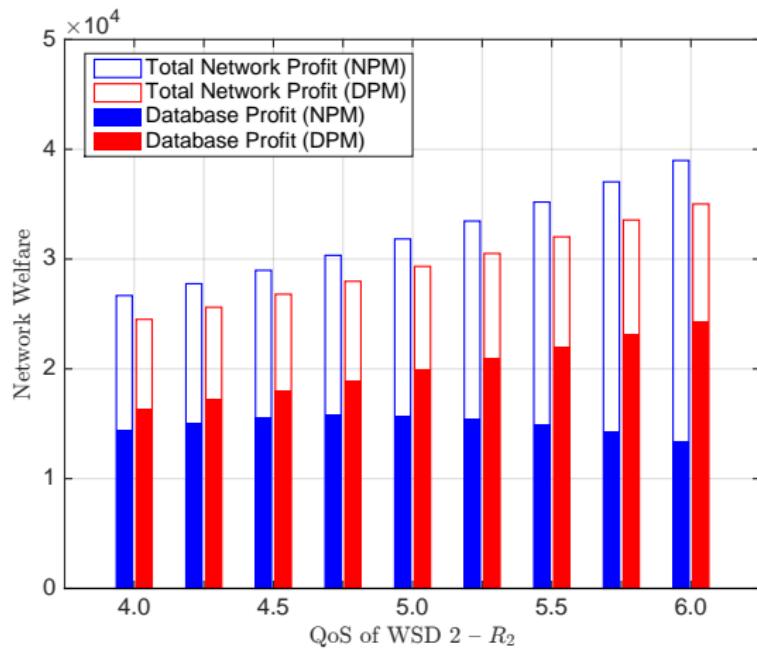
- Network welfare: Profit of database + Profit of two WSDs
- QoS of WSD 1 is fixed: 5
- Network welfare increases with QoS provided by WSD 2

# Simulation Results: Database Profit



- Database's profit increases with  $R_2$  under DPM scheme
  - ▶ A higher QoS attracts more end-users

# Simulation Results: Database Profit

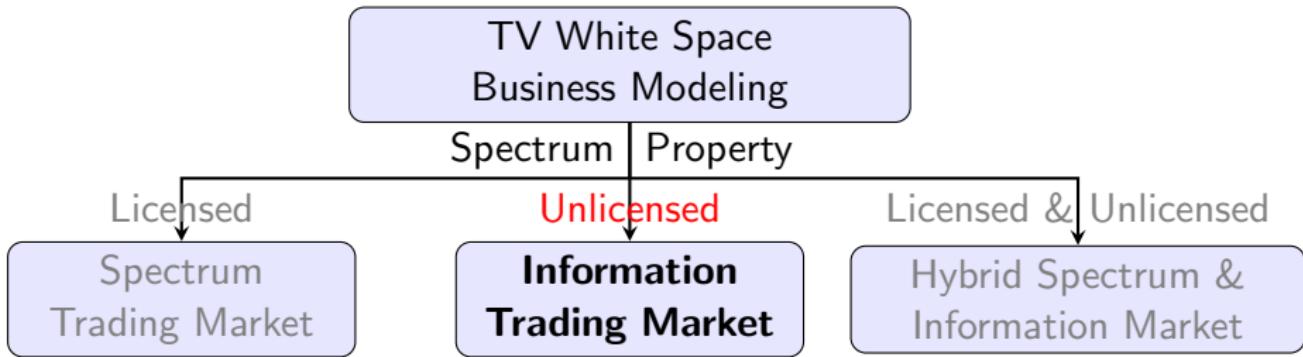


- Database's profit first increases and then decreases with  $R_2$  under NPM scheme
  - ▶ QoS of WSD 1: 5

# Summary

- We consider the competition of WSDs in the spectrum trading market
- We study the strategies of WSDs from a game-theoretic perspective
- We also study the database's wholesale pricing strategy

# Business Models of TVWS Networks



# TV White Spaces

- Licensed TV bands

- ▶ Assigned to TV licensees but not fully utilized;
  - ★ *E.g., some TV program channels shutdown between 12:00am to 6:00am;*
- ▶ TV licensees have **ownerships**, and can fully decide whether, when, where, and how to share these spectrum with unlicensed WSDs;
  - ★ *E.g., ask for financial compensation from unlicensed WSDs;*
- ▶ Business model: **Spectrum Trading Market**
  - ★ **TV licensees:** *Sellers of Spectrum*
  - ★ **WSDs:** *Buyers of Spectrum*
  - ★ **Database:** *Agent/Broker*

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- Unlicensed TV bands

- ▶ Not licensed to any TV licensee at a certain location;
  - ★ *Upgrade from analogue to digital TV: release a large amount of TV channels;*
- ▶ Attitude of regulator: **open and shared usage** (FCC and Ofcom);
  - ★ *E.g., like public resource, such as air and sunlight;*
  - ★ *Spectrum market model is usually not suitable, due to the lack of ownership;*
- ▶ Business model: **Information Trading Market**
  - ★ **Databases:** Sellers of Information
  - ★ **WSDs:** Buyers of Information

# Business Modeling Techniques

- **Spectrum Trading Market**

- ▶ Target at Licensed TV bands
- ▶ **TV licensees**: Sellers of Spectrum
- ▶ **WSDs**: Buyers of Spectrum
- ▶ **Databases**: Agents/Brokers

- **Information Trading Market**

- ▶ Target at Unlicensed TV bands
- ▶ **Databases**: Sellers of Information
- ▶ **WSDs**: Buyers of Information

# Information Trading Market

## • Observations

- ▶ Different unlicensed white space channels may have different **qualities** for a particular WSD;
  - ★ *E.g., due to different interferences from Licensed devices or other WSDs;*
- ▶ Databases know **more information** regarding such quality than WSDs;
  - ★ *E.g., Licensed devices' locations, channel occupancies, transmission powers, and other WSDs' locations and channel occupancies, etc.*

## • Thoughts

- ▶ Can WSDs benefit from such **advanced information** regarding the quality of white space channels?
- ▶ If so, how to motivate databases to share such **advanced information** with WSDs?

# An Example

- Consider a WSD at a particular location
  - ▶ Available white space channels [ $ch1, ch2, ch3, ch4$ ] (**basic information**)
  - ▶ Interference levels [1, 2, 3, 4] or equivalent data rates [5, 2, 1, 0] (**advanced information**)
    - ★ Known by the database, but not known by the WSD

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- If **not purchasing** the advanced information
  - ▶ Receive the available white space channels only, and Choose an available channel randomly
  - ▶ Average data rate:  $\frac{5+2+1+0}{4} = 2$

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  - ▶ Receive the available white space channels only, and Choose an available channel randomly
  - ▶ Average data rate:  $\frac{5+2+1+0}{4} = 2$
- If **purchasing** the advanced information
  - ▶ Receive both the available white space channels and the interference levels (or equivalent data rates), and Choose the best channel
  - ▶ Average data rate: 5

# Information Market Model

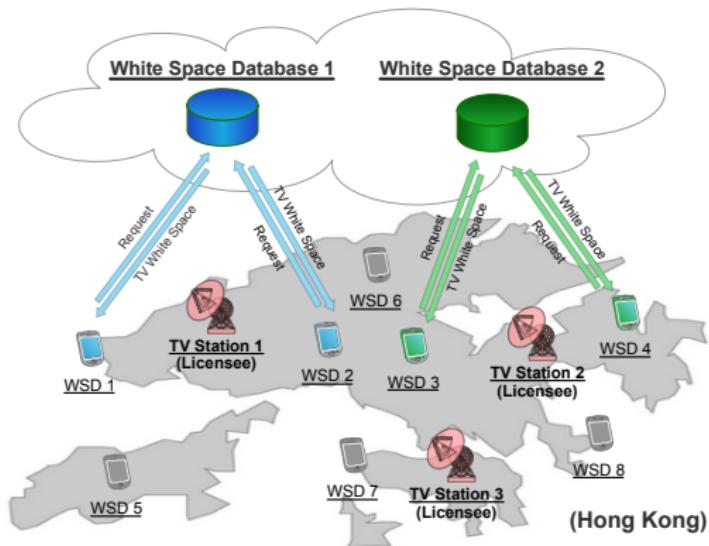
- Key Idea: Databases sell the **advanced information** regarding the qualities of white space channels to unlicensed devices
  - ▶ **Basic information:** Available TV white space channels at a given location (free and mandatory)
  - ▶ **Advanced information:** Quality (e.g., interference level) of each white space channel (non-free and optional)

# Information Market Model

- Key Idea: Databases sell the **advanced information** regarding the qualities of white space channels to unlicensed devices
  - ▶ **Basic information:** Available TV white space channels at a given location (free and mandatory)
  - ▶ **Advanced information:** Quality (e.g., interference level) of each white space channel (non-free and optional)
- Key Problems
  - ▶ How to explicitly define the advanced information
  - ▶ How to accurately evaluate the advanced information
  - ▶ How to choose the best purchasing behaviors for WSDs
  - ▶ What is the market equilibrium point
  - ▶ How to optimally pricing the advanced information for databases

# TV White Space Network Model

- Network Model
  - ▶  $M$  Databases,  $N$  white space devices (WSDs),  $K$  white space channels



# Definition of Advanced Information

- Interference on each white space channel  $k$ 
  - ▶  $U_k$ : Interference from licensed devices

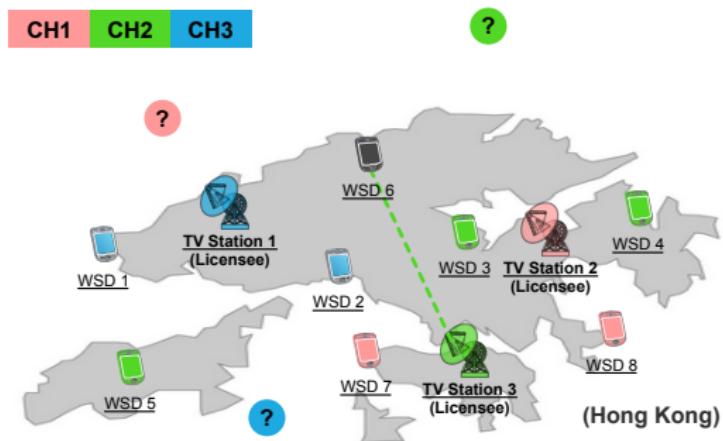


Fig: Interference from licensed devices (on channel 2) for WSD 6.

# Definition of Advanced Information

- Interference on each white space channel  $k$ 
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  - ▶  $V_k$ : Interference from unknown outside systems

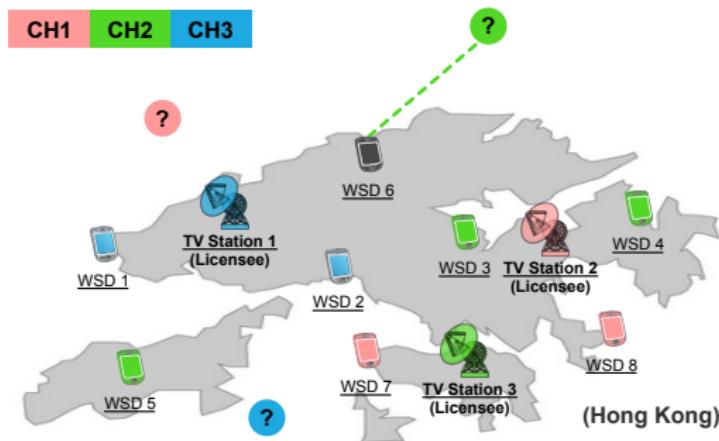


Fig: Interference from outside systems (on channel 2) for WSD 6.

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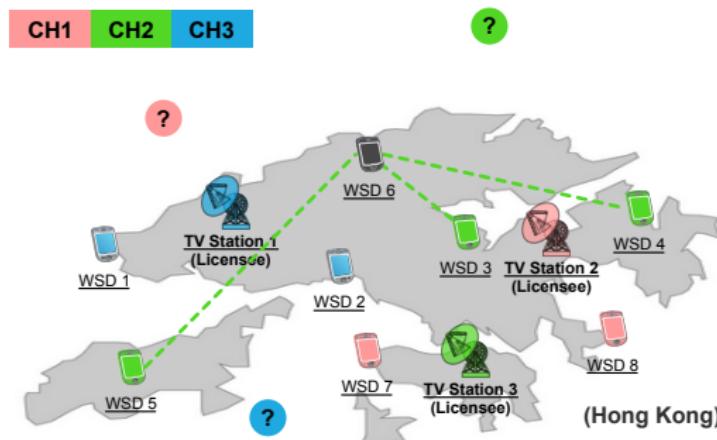


Fig: Interference from WSDs (on channel 2) for WSD 6.

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- Total interference on channel  $k$  (for a particular WSD)

$$Z_k = U_k + V_k + \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_k} W_{k,n}$$

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- ▶  $V_k$ : Interference from unknown outside systems → unknown
- ▶  $W_{k,n}$ : Interference from another WSD  $n$  → known or unknown
  - ★ If WSD  $n$  purchases the advanced information from the database,  $W_{k,n}$  is known by that database
  - ★ If WSD  $n$  does not purchase the advanced information from the database,  $W_{k,n}$  is not known by that database
- Advanced information of a database is defined as the interference components on each channel  $k$  that are known by the database.

# Definition of Advanced Information

- Advanced information of database  $m$  regarding channel  $k$ :

$$X_{k,m} = \underbrace{U_k}_{\text{Licensed Devices}} + \underbrace{\sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_{k,m}} W_{k,n}}_{\text{WSDs Purchasing Database } m \text{ Information}}$$

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- Uncertain information of database  $m$  regarding channel  $k$ :

$$Y_{k,m} = \underbrace{V_k}_{\text{Unknown Outside System}} + \underbrace{\sum_{n \notin \mathcal{N}_{k,m}} W_{k,n}}_{\text{WSDs Not Purchasing Database } m \text{ Information}}$$

# Evaluation of Advanced Information

- Total interference:  $Z_k = X_{k,m} + Y_{k,m}$  (for each database  $m$ )
- Each WSD has  $M + 2$  channel selection strategies:
  - ▶ (a) Choose a channel **randomly**
    - ★ Expected data rate is:  $B = E_Z[\text{Rate}(Z)]$   
where  $Z$  is the random variable denoting the interference on any channel

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  - ▶ (c) Choose the channel based on **advanced information** of database  $m$ 
    - ★ WSD will choose a channel  $k$  with the minimal  $X_{k,m}$
    - ★ Expected data rate is:  $A_m = E_{Z_{[m]}}[\text{Rate}(Z_{[m]})]$   
where  $Z_{[m]} \triangleq \min\{X_{1,m}, X_{2,m}, \dots, X_{K,m}\} + Y_m$  is the random variable denoting the interference on the channel with minimum  $X_{k,m}$

# Evaluation of Advanced Information

- When purchasing the advanced information from a database, WSDs always choose the channel with the minimal  $X_k$ 
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  - ▶ This implies that the database always knows the channel selection of the WSDs purchasing the advanced information
- Positive externality
  - ▶ More WSDs purchasing the advanced information from a database,
  - ▶ → More information the database knows,
  - ▶ → More accurate the channel estimation for WSDs

# Two-Stage Stackelberg Model

## Stage I: Price Competition Game

Databases determine the information price;



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Databases determine the information price;



## Stage II: WSD Behaving and Market Dynamics

WSDs determine and update their best choices; The market dynamically evolves to the equilibrium point.

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## Stage I: Price Competition Game

Databases determine the information price;



## Stage II: WSD Behaving and Market Dynamics

WSDs determine and update their best choices; The market dynamically evolves to the equilibrium point.

- We analyze the two-stage hierarchical model by **backward induction**.

## Stage II - WSDs Behavior and Market Equilibrium

- When choosing channel randomly, its utility is

$$\Pi^{\text{EU}} = \theta \cdot B$$

- When choosing channel based on sensing, its utility is

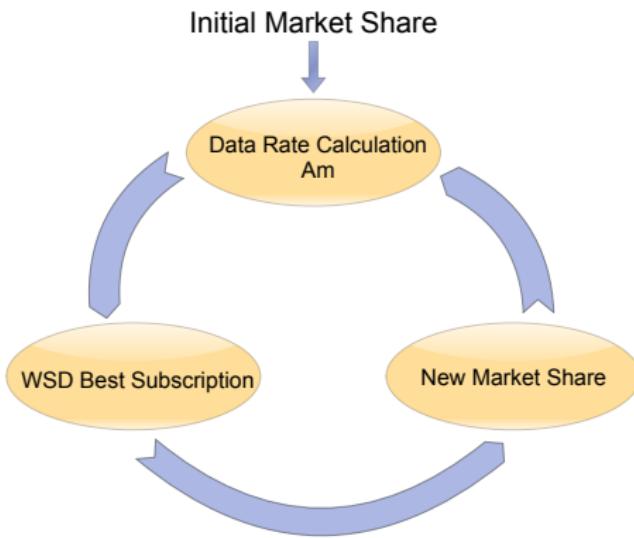
$$\Pi^{\text{EU}} = \theta \cdot S - c$$

- When using the database  $m$ 's advanced information, its utility is

$$\Pi^{\text{EU}} = \theta \cdot A_m(\eta_m) - \pi_m$$

- $\theta$ : the WSD's evaluation for data rate
- $c$ : the cost of sensing
- $\pi_m$ : the price of database  $m$ 's advanced information
- $\eta_m$ : the market share of database  $m$

## Stage II - WSDs Behavior and Market Equilibrium



- **Market Equilibrium**

- ▶ Under market equilibrium, the market shares no longer change.

## Stage II - WSDs Behavior and Market Equilibrium

### Market Equilibrium

The market converges to an equilibrium, if the following condition holds:

$$\Delta_m^t = \eta_m^t - \eta_m^{t-1} = 0, \quad \forall m \in M$$

where  $\eta_m^t$  is the database  $m$ 's market share at stage  $t$ .

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### Existence and Uniqueness

Given a particular initial market share set  $\{\eta_m\}_{m \in M}$  and information price set  $\{\pi_m\}_{m \in M}$ , the market always converges to a unique market share equilibrium.

# Stage I: Price Competition Game Equilibrium

- Price Competition Game
  - ▶ Players:  $M$  databases

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- **Price Competition Game**

- ▶ Players:  $M$  databases
- ▶ Strategies: Information price  $\pi_m$  offered by each database  $m \in M$

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- ▶ Players:  $M$  databases
- ▶ Strategies: Information price  $\pi_m$  offered by each database  $m \in \mathcal{M}$
- ▶ Payoffs: Profit of each database  $m \in \mathcal{M}$

$$\Pi_m^{\text{DB}}(\pi_m, \boldsymbol{\pi}_{-m}) = (\pi_m - c_m) \cdot \eta_m^*(\pi_m, \boldsymbol{\pi}_{-m})$$

- ★  $c_m$ : operational cost of database  $m$
- ★  $\eta_m^*$ : equilibrium market share of database  $m$  in Stage II.

# Stage I: Price Competition Game Equilibrium

## Nash Equilibrium

A price profile  $\{\pi_m^*\}_{m \in \mathcal{M}}$  is called a price equilibrium, if

$$\pi_m^* = \arg \max_{\pi_m^* \geq 0} \Pi_m^{\text{DB}}(\pi_m, \boldsymbol{\pi}_{-m}), \quad \forall m \in \mathcal{M}$$

$$= \arg \max_{\pi_m^* \geq 0} (\pi_m - c_m) \cdot \eta_m^*(\pi_m, \boldsymbol{\pi}_{-m}), \quad \forall m \in \mathcal{M}$$

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- Challenges

- ▶ Characterizing market equilibrium  $\eta_m^*$  as a function of prices  $\{\pi_m\}_{m \in \mathcal{M}}$ .

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# Stage I: Price Competition Game Equilibrium

- **Observations**

- One-to-one correspondence between  $\{\eta_m^*\}_{m \in \mathcal{M}}$  and  $\{\pi_m\}_{m \in \mathcal{M}}$ ;

- **Our Solution**

- Transform the price competition game into an equivalent market share competition game (MSCG).

- ★ Players:  $M$  databases
- ★ Strategies: Market share  $\eta_m$  of each database  $m \in \mathcal{M}$
- ★ Payoffs: Profit of each database  $m \in \mathcal{M}$ ,

$$\Pi_m^{\text{DB}}(\eta_m, \boldsymbol{\eta}_{-m}) = (\pi_m^*(\eta_m, \boldsymbol{\eta}_{-m}) - c_m) \cdot \eta_m$$

where price  $\pi_m^*$  is a function of market shares  $\{\eta_m\}_{m \in \mathcal{M}}$ .

# Stage I: Price Competition Game Equilibrium

## Existence of MSCG NE (Duopoly Market)

In the duopoly market with two databases, the market share competition game (MSCG) is a **supermodular game** with respect to  $\eta_1$  and  $-\eta_2$ . Hence, there exists at least one equilibrium.

# Stage I: Price Competition Game Equilibrium

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## Existence of MSCG NE (Oligopoly Market)

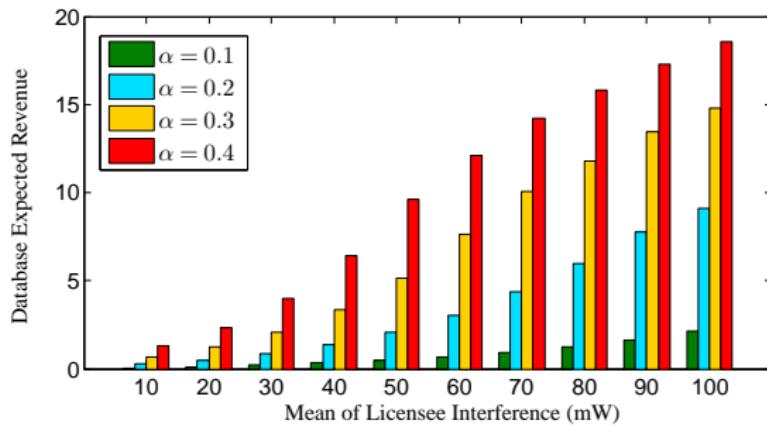
In the oligopoly market with more than two databases, there exists a pure-strategy Nash equilibrium, under the following positive network externality function:

$$g(\eta_m) = \alpha_m + (\beta_m - \alpha_m) \cdot \eta_m^{\gamma_m}, \quad \gamma_m \in (0, 1].$$

# Monopoly Market

- **Monopoly Market:** Single Database

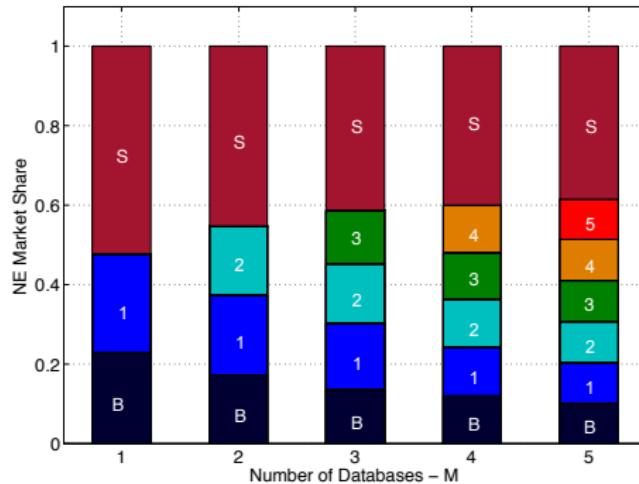
- ▶ Database's revenue **increases** with the degree of licensee interference and the sensing cost  $\alpha$ ;
  - ★ A larger licensee interference or sensing cost makes the information more valuable.



# Competitive Market

- Competitive Market: Multiple Database

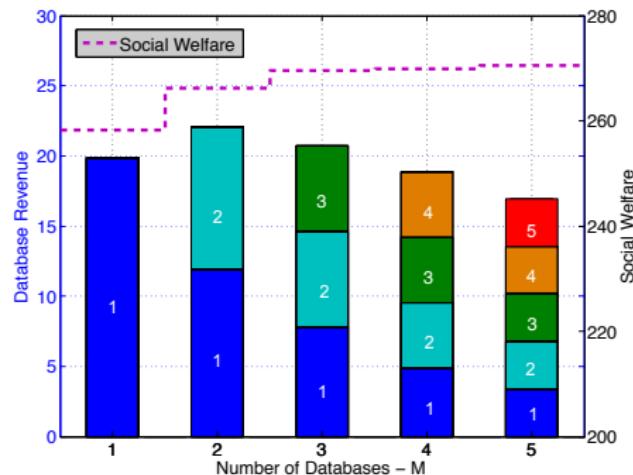
- ▶ Each database market share **decreases** with the number of databases due to competition;
- ▶ Total database market share **increases** with the number of databases;
  - ★ Competition drives the information price down
  - ★ Low price attract more WSDs



# Competitive Market

- **Competitive Market:** Multiple Database

- ▶ Each database's revenue **decreases** with the number of databases due to competition;
- ▶ Total database revenue first **increases**, and then **decrease** with the number of databases;
  - ★ Competition drives the information price down
  - ★ Low price attract more WSDs



# Summary

## ● Conclusion

- ▶ We proposed an information market for unlicensed TV channels;
- ▶ We characterized the positive externality of the information market;
- ▶ We analyzed the market equilibrium of the information market;
- ▶ We studied the price competition among databases.

# Summary

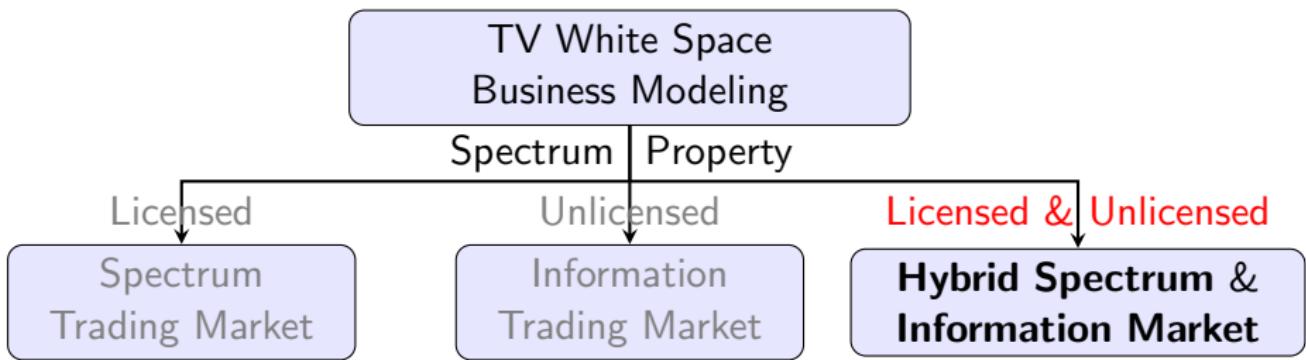
- **Conclusion**

- ▶ We proposed an information market for unlicensed TV channels;
- ▶ We characterized the positive externality of the information market;
- ▶ We analyzed the market equilibrium of the information market;
- ▶ We studied the price competition among databases.

- **Next Step**

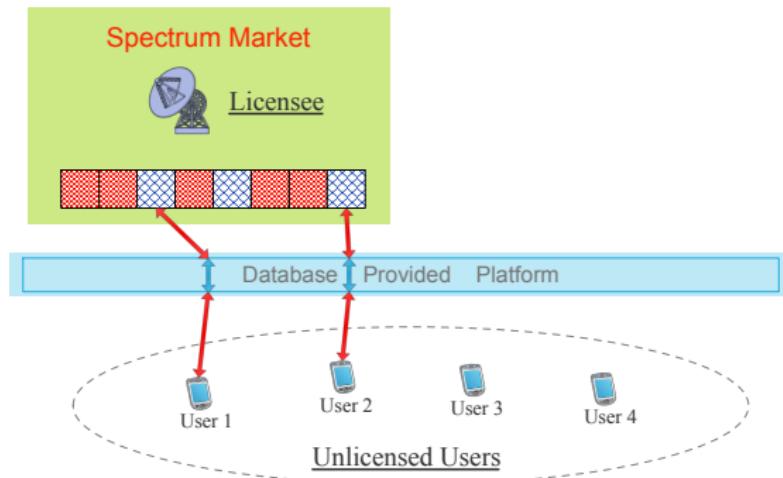
- ▶ Joint consideration of licensed and unlicensed TV channels.

# Business Models of TVWS Networks



# Hybrid Market Model: Spectrum Market

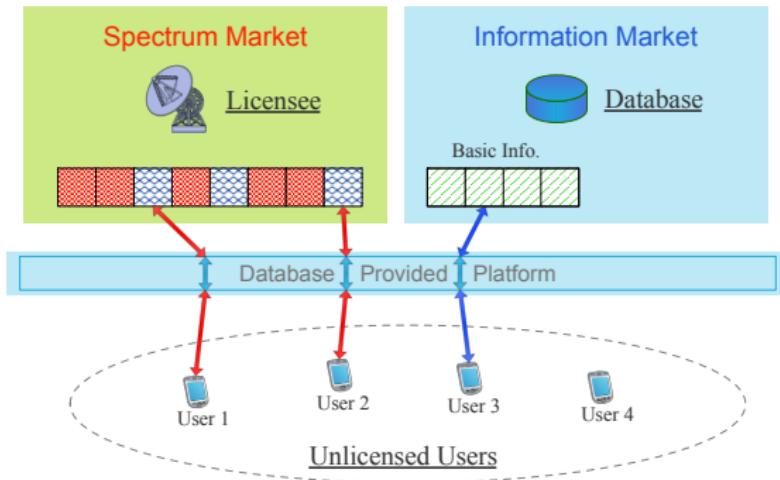
 Licensed TV Channel  
Busy (Fully-Utilized)       Licensed TV Channel  
Idle (Under-Utilized)



- The spectrum licensee *leases* his licensed TV channels via the platform of the database to unlicensed users
  - ▶ the database's *proximity* to both licensees and unlicensed users
  - ▶ Users can lease licensed channels for *exclusive usage*

# Hybrid Market Model: Information Market

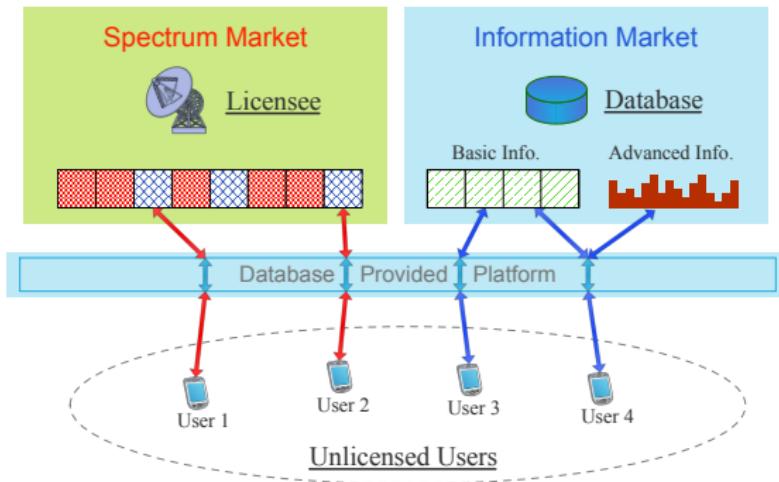
 Licensed TV Channel  
Busy (Fully-Utilized)       Licensed TV Channel  
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(TV White Space)



- **Basic Service (free):** The database returns available unlicensed TV channels list to users **without** quality information

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 Licensed TV Channel  
Busy (Fully-Utilized)     Licensed TV Channel  
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(TV White Space)



- **Basic Service (free):** The database returns available unlicensed TV channels list to users **without** quality information
- **Advance Service (paid):** The database returns available unlicensed TV channels list to users **with** quality information

# Property of Hybrid Market

- Positive externality

- ▶ More WSDs purchasing the advanced information from a database,  
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- Competition and Cooperation

- ▶ Database and licensee compete for providing different services
  - ▶ Database assists the licensee to display leasing information

## Observations and Insights

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# Conclusion

- **Background**

- ▶ Historical Background
- ▶ Standardization Efforts
- ▶ Policy Considerations

- **Technique Issues**

- ▶ Database and WSD Development
- ▶ TVWS Availability Computation
- ▶ Resource Management and Optimization

- **Business Models**

- ▶ Spectrum Market Model
- ▶ Information Market Model
- ▶ Hybrid Market Model

# Publications

## ● Overview

- ▶ Y. Luo, L. Gao, and J. Huang, "Business Modeling for TV White Space Networks", *IEEE Communications Magazine*, vol. 53, no. 5, pp. 82-88, May 2015.

## ● Spectrum Trading Market

- ▶ Y. Luo, L. Gao, and J. Huang, "Spectrum Reservation Contract Design in TV White Space Networks", *IEEE Transactions on Cognitive Communications and Networking* (**Invited Paper**), forthcoming.
- ▶ Y. Luo, L. Gao, and J. Huang, "Price and Inventory Competition in Oligopoly TV White Space Markets", *IEEE Journal on Selected Areas in Communications (JSAC)*, vol. 33, no. 5, pp. 1002-1013, October 2014
- ▶ Y. Luo, L. Gao, and J. Huang, "White Space Ecosystem: A Secondary Network Operator's Perspective", IEEE Global Communications Conference (GLOBECOM), Atlanta, USA, December 2013
- ▶ Y. Luo, L. Gao, and J. Huang, "Spectrum Broker by Geo-location Database", IEEE Global Communications Conference (GLOBECOM), Anaheim, USA, December 2012

## ● Information Trading Market

- ▶ Y. Luo, L. Gao, and J. Huang, "MINE GOLD to Deliver Green Cognitive Communications", *IEEE Journal on Selected Areas in Communications (JSAC)*, forthcoming
- ▶ Y. Luo, L. Gao, and J. Huang, "Trade Information, Not Spectrum: A Novel TV White Space Information Market Model", *IEEE WiOpt* (**Best Paper Award**), Hammamet, Tunisia, May 2014
- ▶ Y. Luo, L. Gao, and J. Huang, "Information Market for TV White Space Market", *IEEE Workshop on Smart Data Pricing (SDP)* (**Invited Paper**), Toronto, Canada, May 2014

## ● Hybrid Spectrum and Information Trading Market

- ▶ Y. Luo, L. Gao, and J. Huang, "HySIM: A Hybrid Spectrum and Information Market for TV White Space Networks", *IEEE International Conference on Computer Communications (INFOCOM)*, Hong Kong, 2015

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