

Unit 6

Communication System

INTRODUCTION TO MODULATION: AM, FM, PM

What is Modulation?

Modulation is the process of varying one or more properties of a high-frequency carrier signal in accordance with a low-frequency message (information) signal.

Need for Modulation:

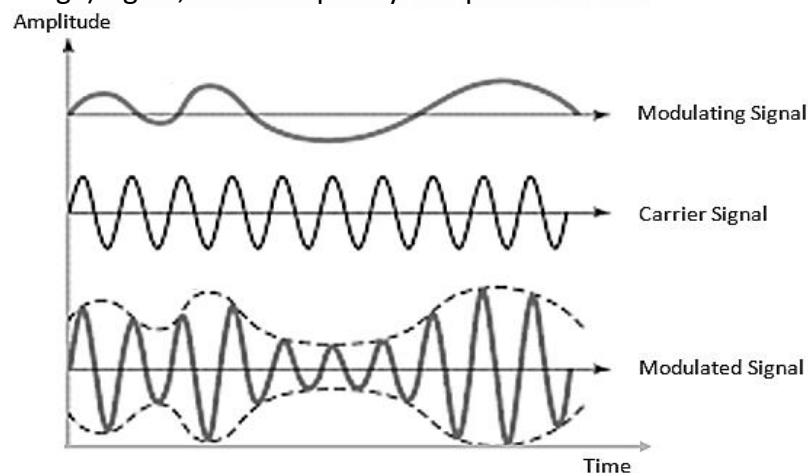
1. *Efficient Transmission*: Low-frequency signals can't travel long distances due to high attenuation.
2. *Antenna Size*: Direct transmission of low-frequency signals requires impractically large antennas.
3. *Multiplexing*: Allows simultaneous transmission of multiple signals.
4. *Noise Reduction*: Modulated signals are less affected by noise than baseband signals.

Types of Modulation

There are three basic types of analog modulation:

1. Amplitude Modulation (AM)

Definition: In AM, the amplitude of the carrier signal varies according to the instantaneous value of the modulating (message) signal, while frequency and phase remain constant.



Mathematical Expression:

Let,

- Carrier wave: $V_c(t) = A_c \sin(2\pi f_c t)$
- Modulating signal: $V_m(t) = A_m \sin(2\pi f_m t)$

Then, the AM wave is:

$$V_{am}(t) = [A_c + A_m \sin(2\pi f_m t)] \times \sin(2\pi f_c t)$$

Modulation Index (μ):

$$\mu = \frac{A_m}{A_c}$$

- $\mu < 1$: Under modulation
- $\mu = 1$: Perfect modulation
- $\mu > 1$: Over modulation (causes distortion)

Advantages of AM:

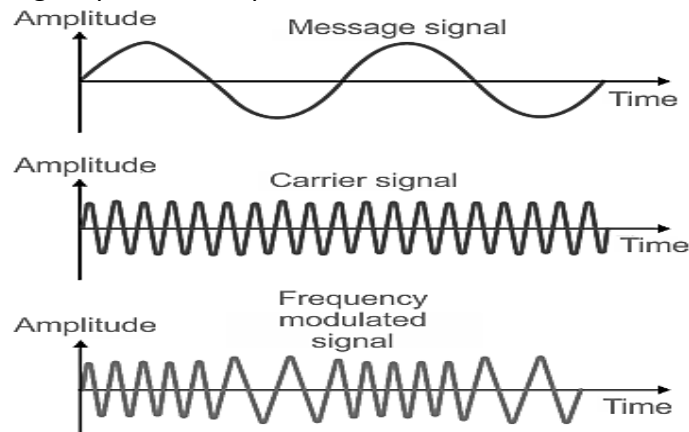
- Simple to implement and demodulate.
- Low-cost receivers.

Disadvantages:

- Poor sound quality.
- More susceptible to noise.
- Inefficient power usage.

2. Frequency Modulation (FM)

Definition: In FM, the frequency of the carrier wave is varied in proportion to the amplitude of the modulating signal, keeping amplitude and phase constant.



Mathematical Expression:

$$V_{fm}(t) = A_c \sin \left[2\pi f_c t + \frac{\Delta f}{f_m} \sin (2\pi f_m t) \right]$$

Where,

- Δf = Frequency deviation
- f_m = Maximum modulating frequency

Modulation Index (β):

$$\beta = \frac{\Delta f}{f_m}$$

Advantages:

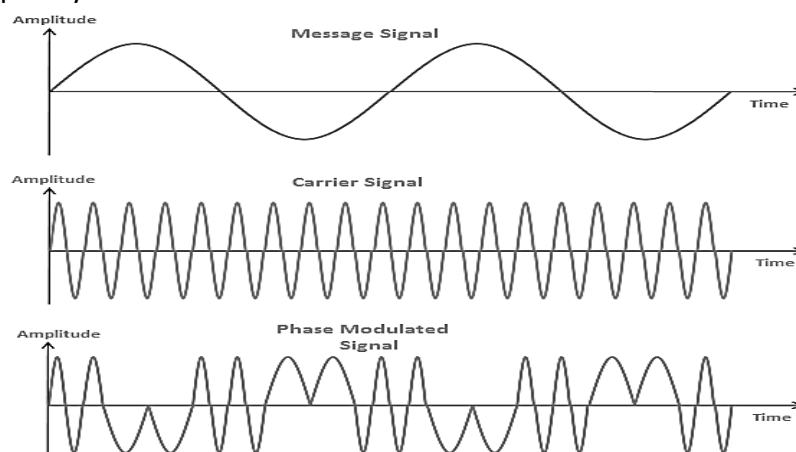
- Better sound quality.
- Highly resistant to noise.
- Constant amplitude avoids distortion.

Disadvantages:

- Requires larger bandwidth.
- Complex circuitry.

3. Phase Modulation (PM)

Definition: In PM, the phase of the carrier wave is varied according to the message signal, keeping amplitude and frequency constant.



Mathematical Expression:

$$V_{pm}(t) = A_c \sin [2\pi f_c t + k_p m(t)]$$

Where,

- k_p is the phase sensitivity of the modulator.

Characteristics:

- Closely related to FM.
- Phase change depends on amplitude of the message signal.

Advantages:

- Less sensitive to noise than AM.
- Used in digital communication (e.g., PSK – Phase Shift Keying).

Disadvantages:

- Complex receiver and demodulation circuitry.
- Phase instability may cause errors.

Comparative Table

Parameter	AM	FM	PM
<i>Varying Parameter</i>	Amplitude	Frequency	Phase
<i>Bandwidth</i>	$2 \times f_m$	$2(\Delta f + f_m)$	Depends on modulating signal
<i>Noise Immunity</i>	Poor	Good	Better than AM
<i>Power Efficiency</i>	Low	High	Moderate
<i>Application</i>	AM Radio	FM Radio, TV Audio	Mobile, Digital Systems
<i>Complexity</i>	Simple	Moderate	Complex

Applications of Modulation

Modulation Type	Applications
AM	AM radio, aviation communication
FM	FM radio, audio broadcasting, police radios
PM	Mobile communication, satellite, radar, telemetry

DEMODULATION

Definition: Demodulation is the process of recovering the original information signal (such as audio, video, or data) from a modulated carrier wave. It is the reverse process of modulation.

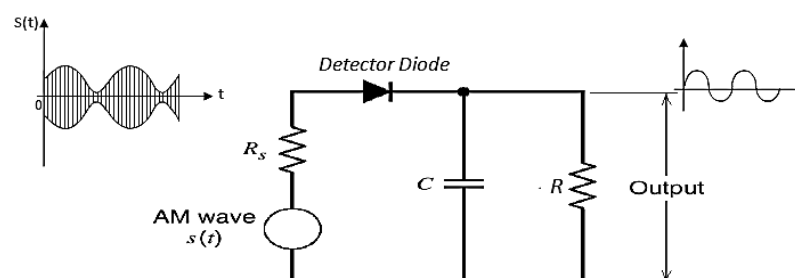
Why is Demodulation Necessary?

- To retrieve the actual message signal (such as a voice signal) from a modulated wave sent over long distances.
- Required in all communication receivers (like radios, TVs, mobile phones, etc.).

Types of Demodulation Techniques

1. AM Demodulation (Amplitude Demodulation):

Used to extract the message from an AM (Amplitude Modulated) signal.



Envelope Detector (Simple AM Demodulator):

- Circuit: Diode + RC filter.
- Working: The diode allows only positive half-cycles of AM wave; the RC filter smoothens the signal to follow the envelope.
- Used In: Radios, simple receivers.

2. FM Demodulation (Frequency Demodulation):

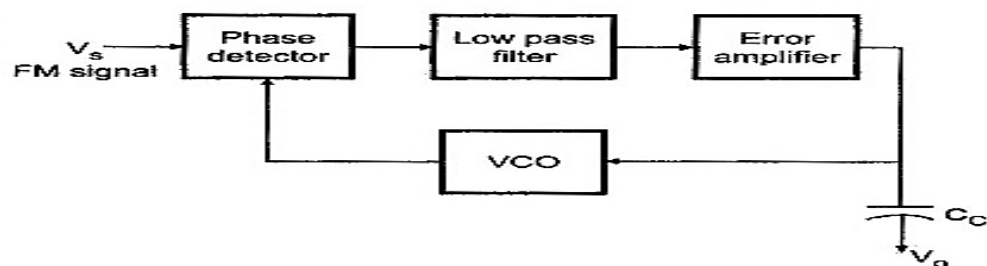
Used for Frequency Modulated signals.

Common FM Demodulators:

- Slope Detector (simple, low accuracy)
- Phase-Locked Loop (PLL) (high accuracy and widely used)
- Quadrature Detector

Phase-Locked Loop (PLL) Working:

- Tracks the input FM signal's frequency.
- The difference in phase is used to recreate the original modulating signal.



3. PM Demodulation (Phase Demodulation):

- Similar to FM demodulation, often done using PLLs.
- Extracts changes in phase to determine the message.

Applications of Demodulation

- Radio and TV receivers
- Satellite communications
- Mobile phones
- Internet data transmission

MULTIPLEXING

Definition: Multiplexing is a technique used to combine multiple signals (analog or digital) into one signal over a shared medium (like a cable or wireless channel), to maximize efficiency of communication systems.

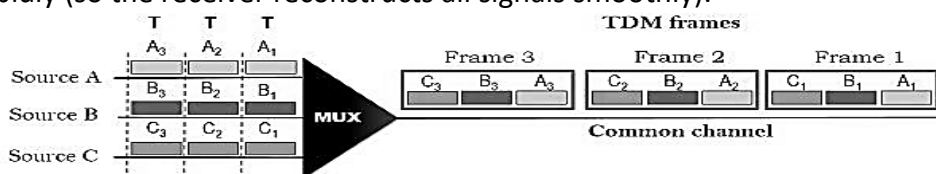
Why is Multiplexing Important?

- **Saves bandwidth and cost.**
- **Efficient use** of available communication channels.
- Enables **simultaneous data transmission.**

Types of Multiplexing

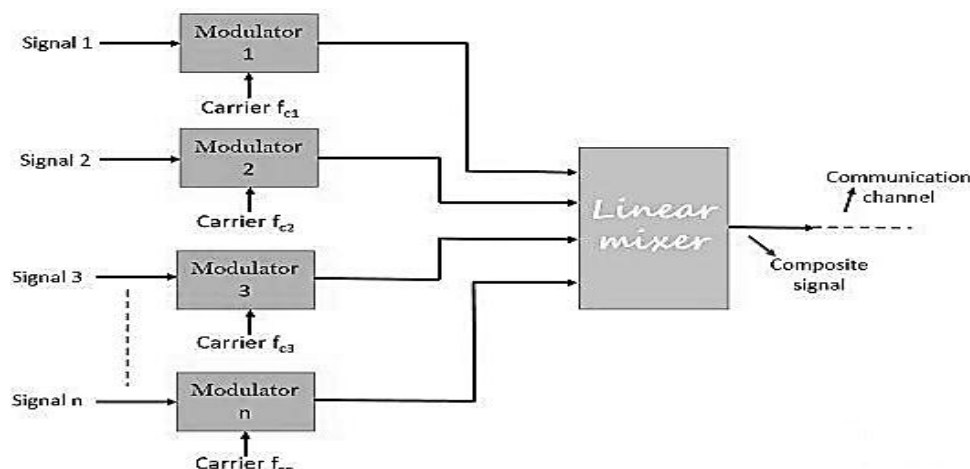
1. Time Division Multiplexing (TDM):

- Each signal gets a specific time slot in a repeating sequence.
- Used in: Digital communication, computer networks.
- TDM Working: If there are 4 signals, each one is sent in 1 out of every 4 time slots, very rapidly (so the receiver reconstructs all signals smoothly).



2. Frequency Division Multiplexing (FDM):

- Each signal is assigned a different frequency band.
- Used in: Radio and TV broadcasting, cable TV, telephony.
- FDM Working: Different audio stations are modulated on different carrier frequencies and sent over the same medium.



3. Wavelength Division Multiplexing (WDM):

- Specific to optical fiber communication.
- Each signal is transmitted using different wavelengths (colours) of light.
- Used in: Fiber-optic communication.

4. Code Division Multiplexing (CDM / CDMA):

- All users use the same bandwidth at the same time, but with unique codes.
- Used in: Mobile communications (3G networks), GPS.

Applications of Multiplexing

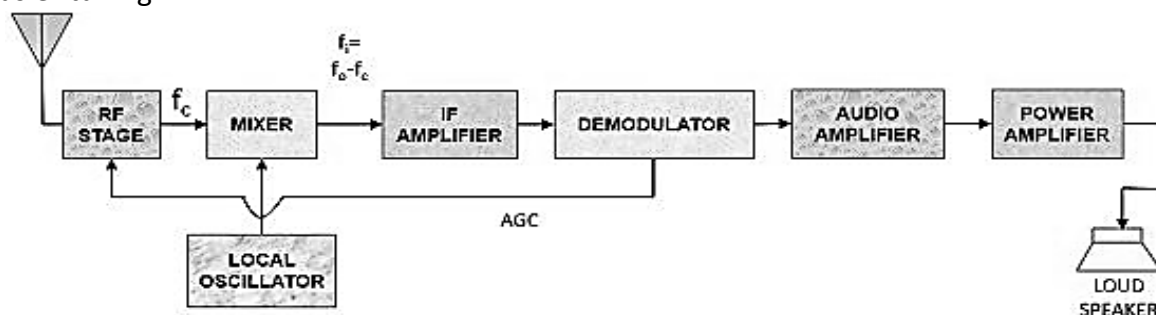
- Mobile networks (CDMA, FDMA)
- Satellite and cable TV
- Optical fiber data transmission (WDM)
- Telecommunication systems
- Internet data transmission (TDM)

SUPERHETERODYNE RADIO RECEIVER

A Superheterodyne Receiver is a type of radio receiver that uses frequency mixing to convert a received signal to a fixed intermediate frequency (IF) which can be processed more conveniently than the original radio carrier frequency.

It is widely used in AM, FM, and TV receivers due to:

- Better selectivity
- Greater sensitivity
- High gain
- Easier tuning



Working Principle

1. *Antenna*: Captures the incoming modulated RF signals.
2. *RF Amplifier*: Amplifies weak signals and selects the desired frequency range.
3. *Mixer*: Combines the amplified signal with a local oscillator signal to produce an Intermediate Frequency (IF) using heterodyning:

$$f_{IF} = |f_{LO} - f_{RF}|$$

4. *IF Amplifier*: Amplifies the IF signal. Since IF is fixed (typically 455 kHz for AM), filters can be optimized.
5. *Detector/Demodulator*: Extracts the audio (original) signal from the modulated carrier.
6. *Audio Amplifier*: Increases the strength of audio signal to drive the loudspeaker.
7. *Speaker*: Converts electrical signal into sound.

Advantages

- High gain and selectivity
- Constant bandwidth (due to fixed IF)
- Better image frequency rejection

Disadvantages

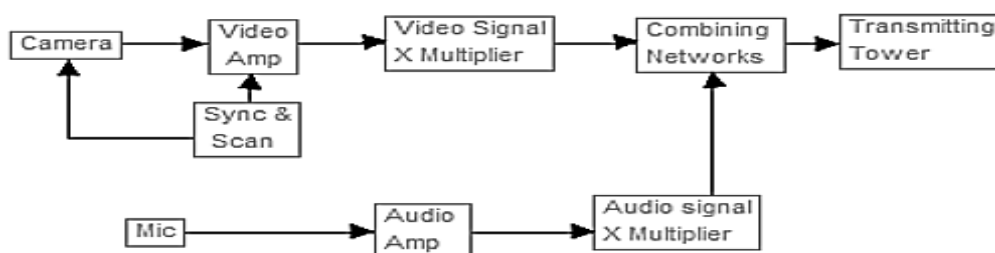
- Slightly complex
- Expensive compared to simple detectors

TELEVISION

Television is a system for transmitting visual images and sound that are reproduced on screens, mainly used to broadcast programs for entertainment, information, and education.

Basic Elements

1. *Transmitter Section*
 - Camera Tube (e.g., CCD): Converts visual scene into electric signals.
 - Microphone: Captures sound.
 - Modulation: Video is AM, audio is FM.
 - Combining Circuit: Synchronizes video and audio signals.
 - Transmitting Antenna: Radiates the signal.
2. *Receiver Section*
 - Receiving Antenna: Captures modulated signal.
 - Tuner: Selects desired channel frequency.
 - Demodulators: Separate video and audio signals.
 - Video Amplifier: Amplifies video for screen display.
 - Audio Amplifier: Drives speaker.
 - CRT/LCD/LED: Displays image.

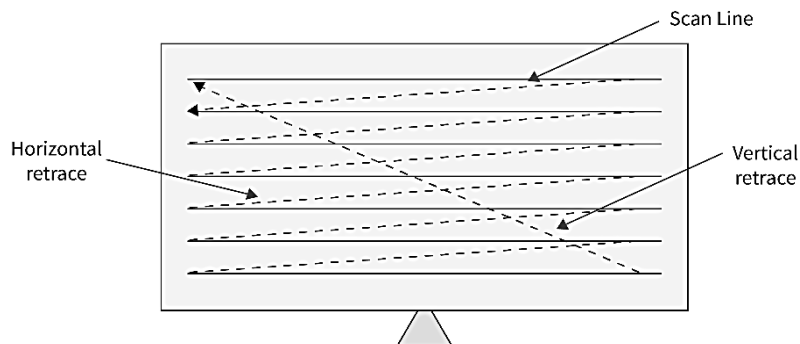


Scanning Process

- Converts 2D image into 1D time-varying signal.
- Done line-by-line, then frame-by-frame.
- Interlaced scanning improves stability.

Colour TV Concepts

- Primary colors: Red, Green, Blue (RGB)
- Color mixing at transmitter and receiver
- Chrominance and Luminance signals are separated



Types of Modulation Used

- AM for video signals
- FM for audio signals

ELEMENTARY CONCEPTS OF OPTICAL COMMUNICATION, SATELLITE COMMUNICATION AND MOBILE COMMUNICATION

Optical Communication

Definition: Transmission of data using light (typically infrared or visible) through optical fibers.

Basic Components

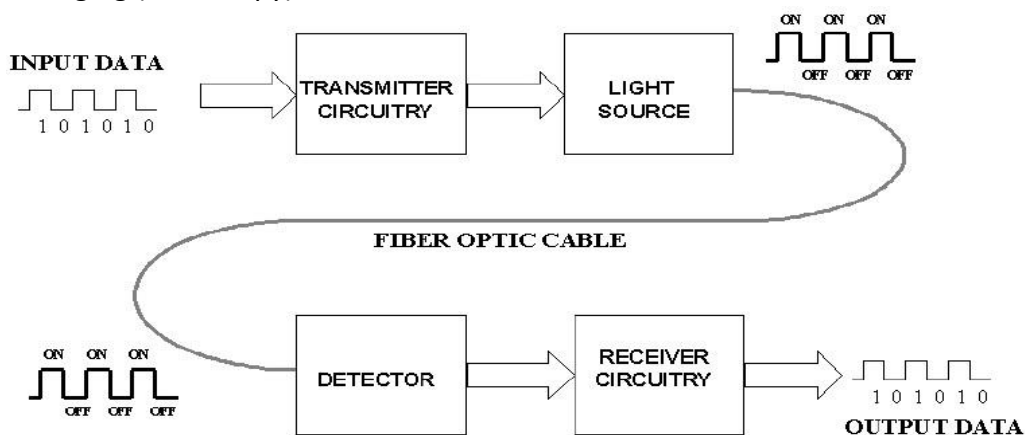
1. Transmitter (LED/Laser Diode): Converts electrical signal into light
2. Optical Fiber: Transmits light via Total Internal Reflection
3. Receiver (Photodiode): Converts light back to electrical signal

Advantages

- Very high bandwidth
- Immune to EMI
- Low loss, secure transmission

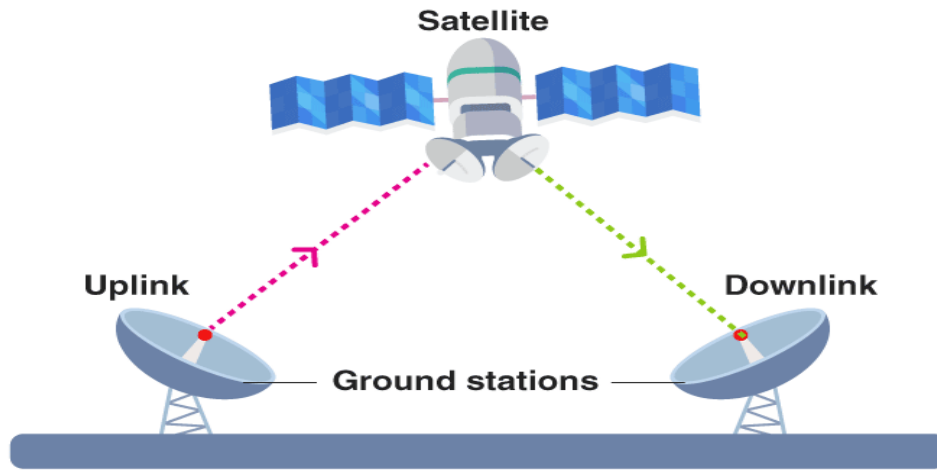
Applications

- Internet backbone
- Long-distance telephony
- Medical imaging (endoscopy)



Satellite Communication

Definition: Satellite communication uses orbiting satellites to relay and amplify radio signals between source and receiver.



Components

- Uplink: Signal from Earth to satellite
- Downlink: Signal from satellite to Earth
- Transponder: Receives, amplifies, and retransmits signals
- Earth Station: Ground-based sending/receiving unit

Frequency Bands

- C Band: 4–8 GHz
- Ku Band: 12–18 GHz
- Ka Band: 26–40 GHz

Advantages

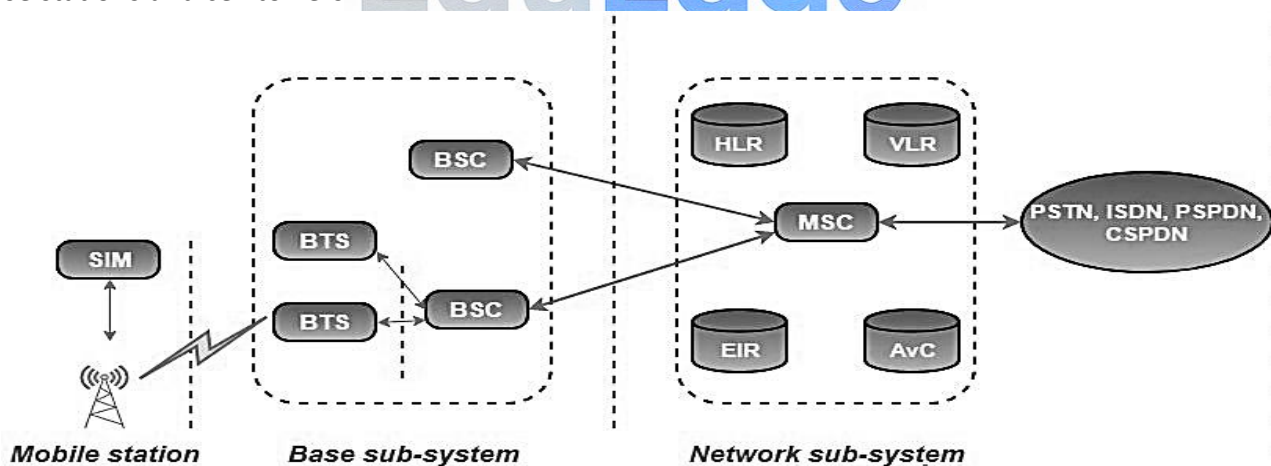
- Wide area coverage
- Useful in remote areas
- Reliable for global broadcasting

Applications

- TV, internet, GPS, military communication

Mobile Communication

Definition: Mobile communication refers to the wireless transmission of voice and data through a network of base stations and cell towers.



Evolution

- 1G: Analog voice
- 2G: Digital voice (GSM)
- 3G: Mobile internet
- 4G: High-speed data (VoLTE)
- 5G: Ultra-high-speed, low-latency, IoT connectivity

Key Components

- Cell Towers (Base Stations)
- Mobile Switching Center (MSC)
- SIM and Mobile Device
- Network Backbone

Technologies

- CDMA, GSM, LTE, OFDM, MIMO

Applications

- Voice, SMS, Internet
- Video streaming, GPS, Banking

