

RF COMMUNICATIONS IN THE FRONT END

Ecole DAQ Emergents | Cedric DEHOS/Jose Luis GONZALEZ | 12 Novembre 2018



SOMMAIRE

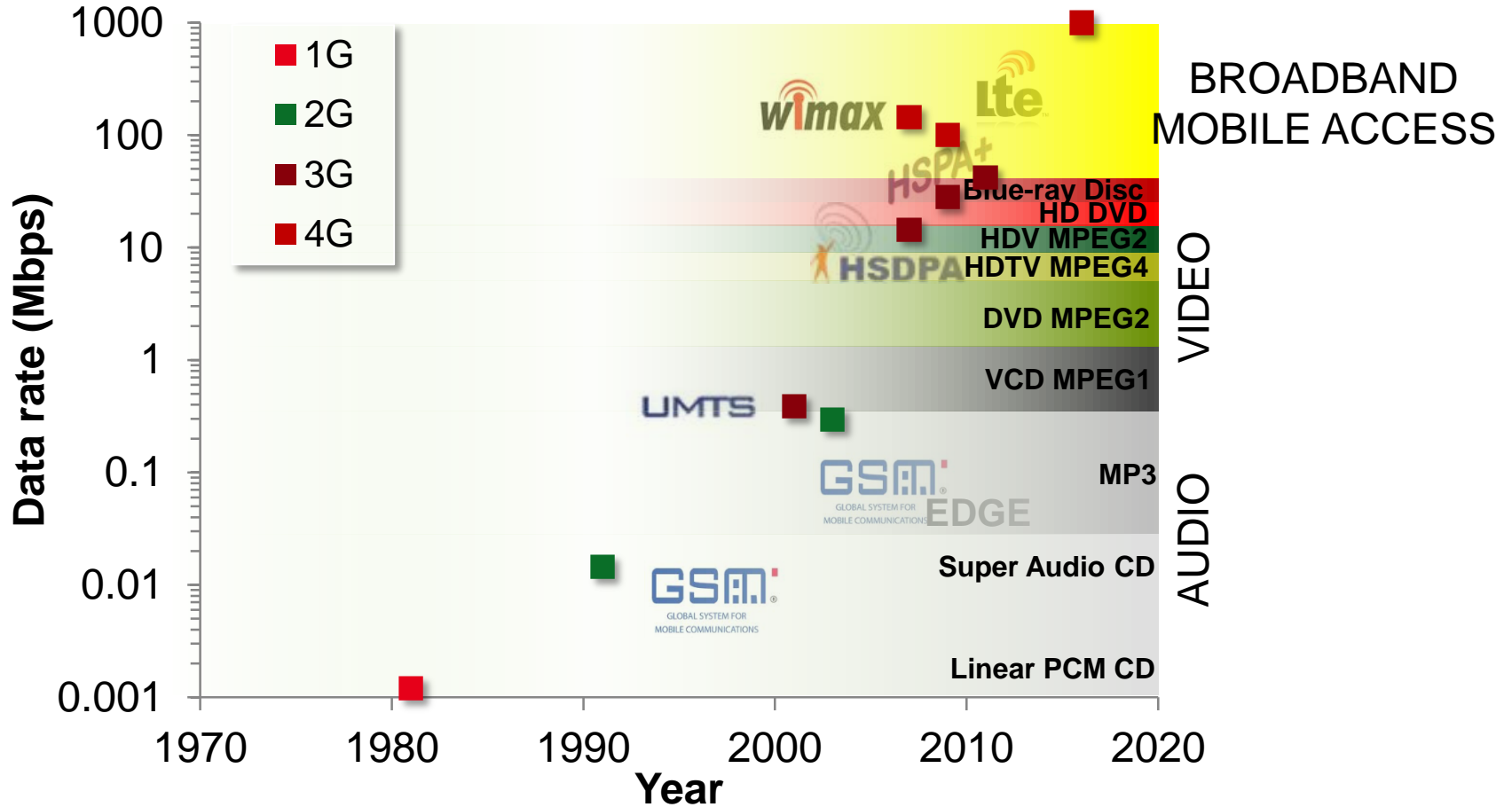
- 1** Introduction to wireless communication standards
- 2** RF communications fundamentals
 - 2.1** Radio architectures
 - 2.2** Modulation alternatives
 - 2.3** Channel capacity
 - 2.4** mmW frequency radio opportunities

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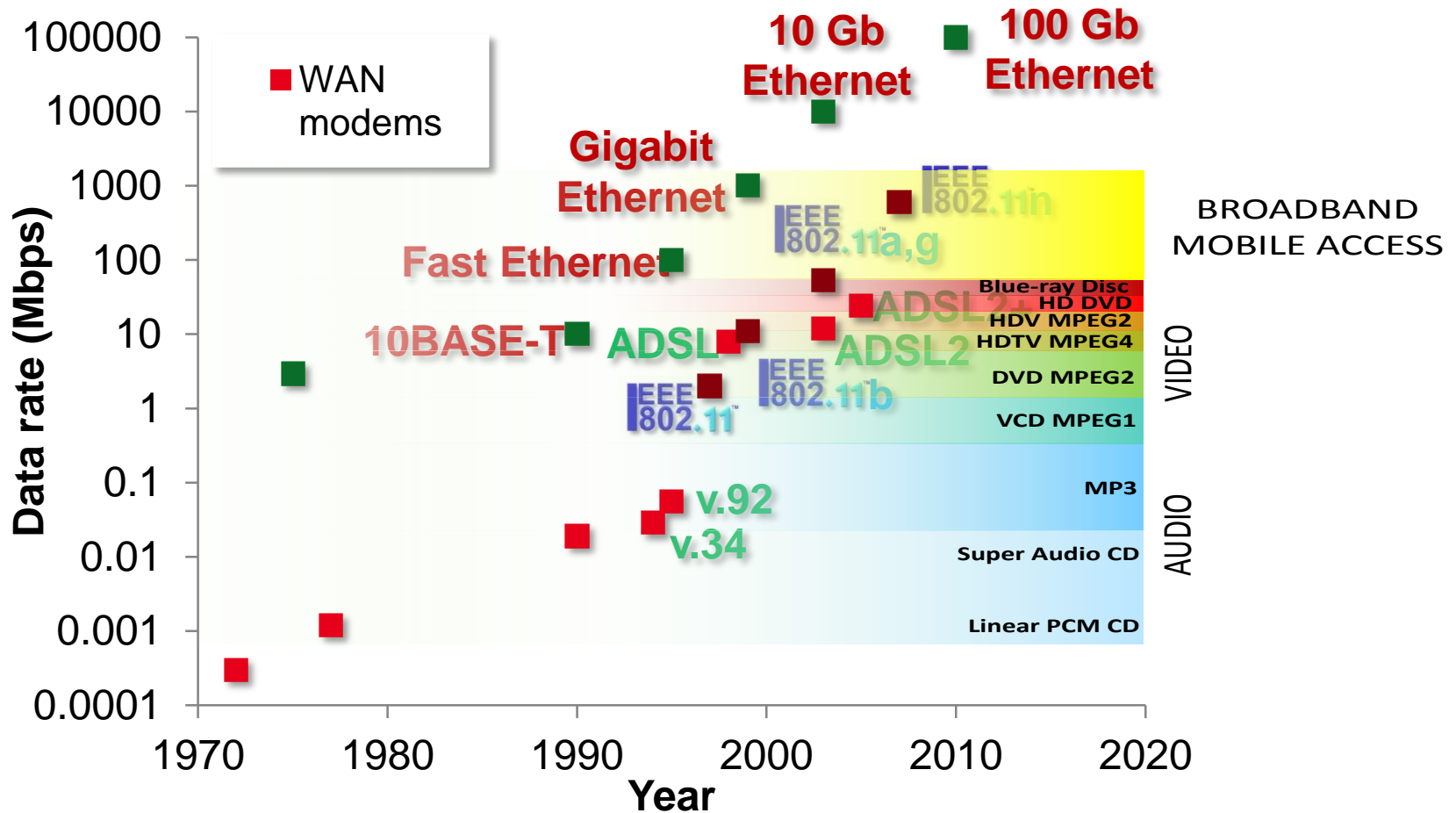


CHRONOLOGY: THE QUEST FOR THE GIGA-B/S CELLULAR NETWORKS



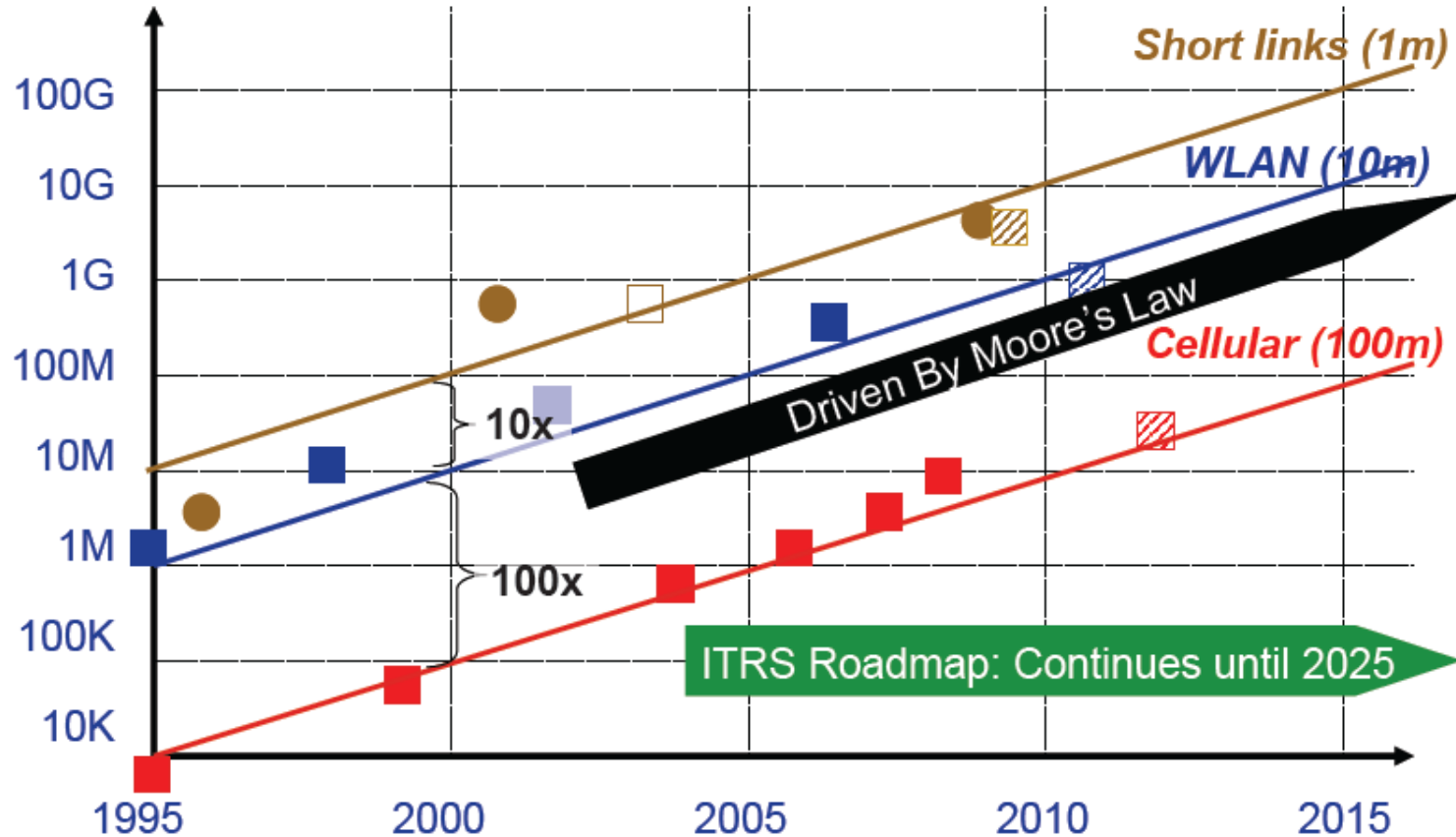
CHRONOLOGY: THE QUEST FOR THE GIGA-B/S

LOCAL AND WIDE AREA NETWORKS



CHRONOLOGY: THE QUEST FOR THE GIGA-B/S

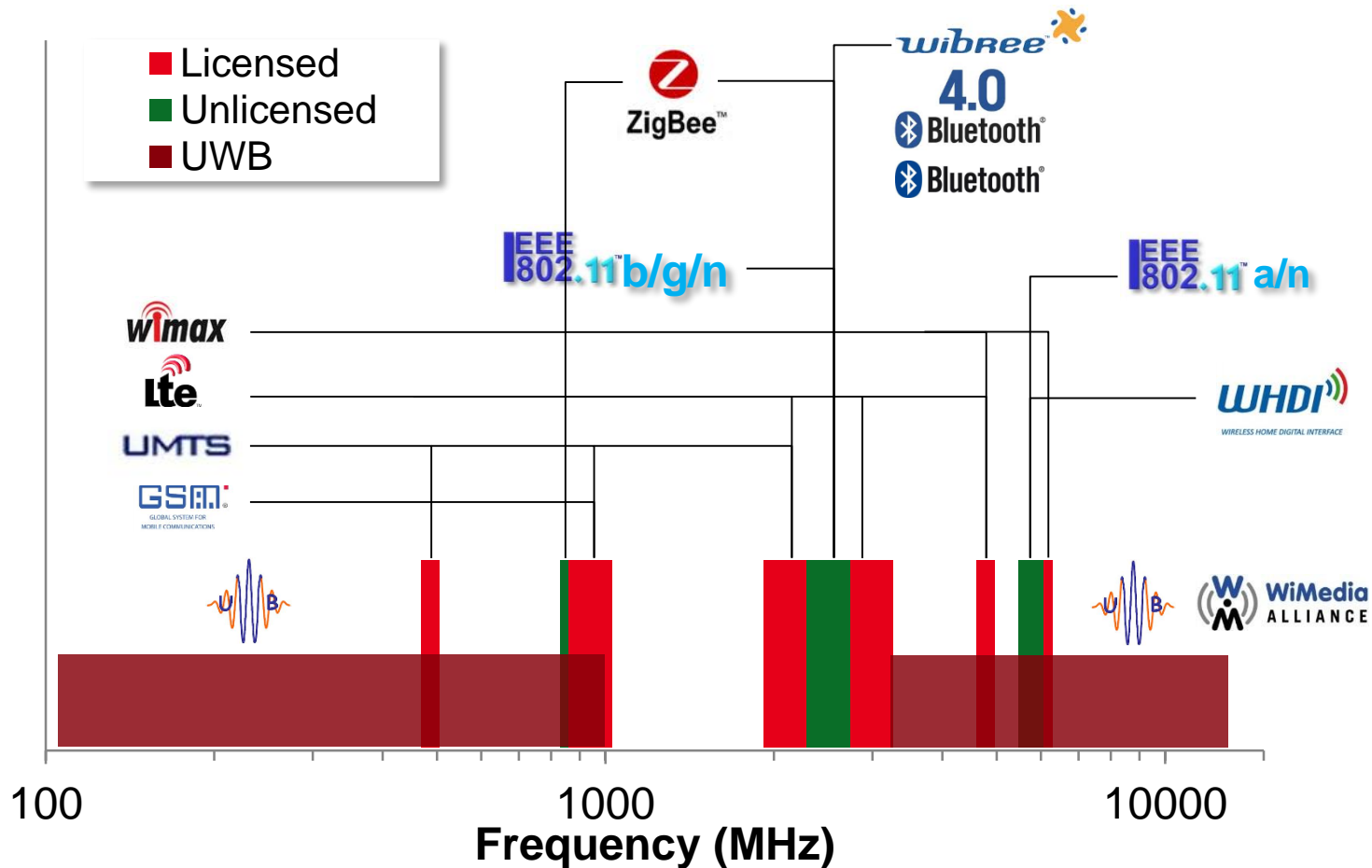
SUMMARY



Source: Gerhard Fettweis
Vodafone Chair –TU Dresden –Germany



MORE BANDWIDTH, MORE BANDWIDTH!



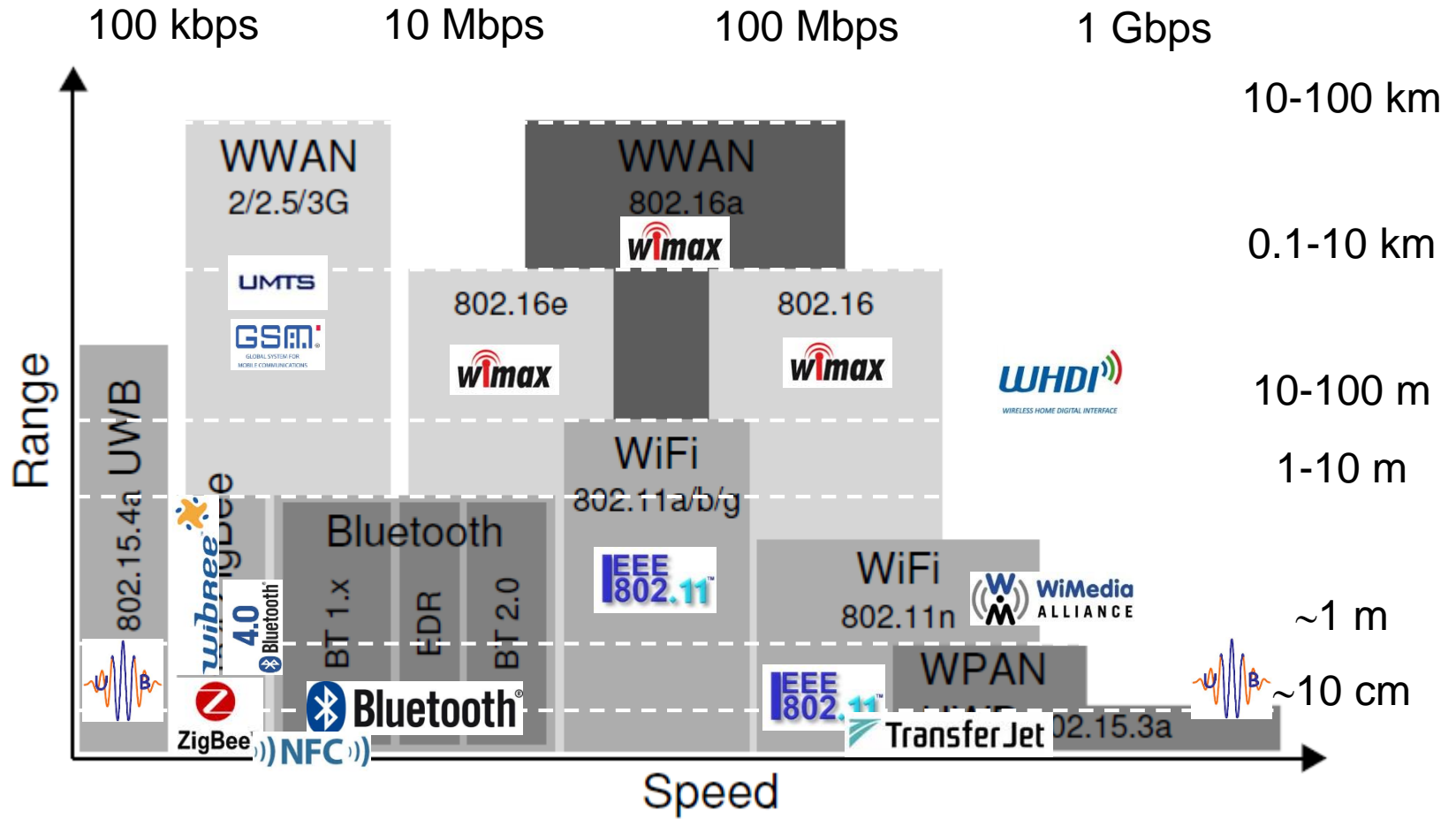




TABLE I
COMPARISON OF THE BLUETOOTH, UWB, ZIGBEE, AND WI-FI PROTOCOLS

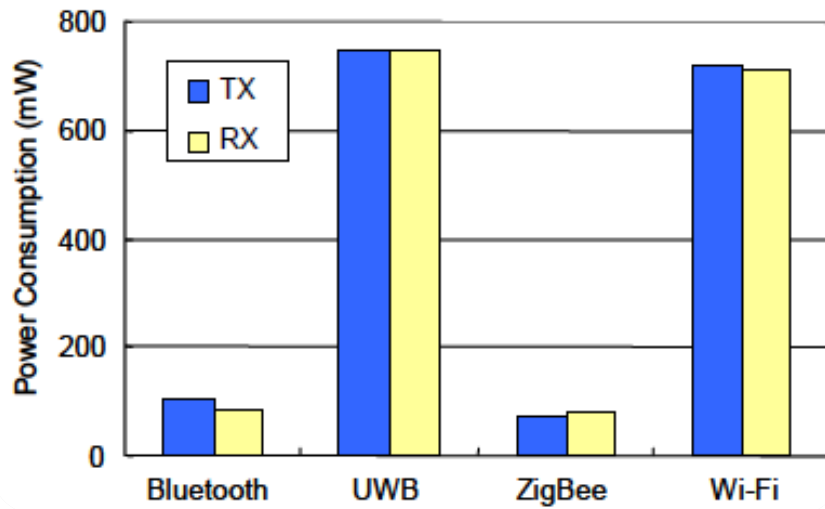
Standard	Bluetooth	UWB	ZigBee	Wi-Fi
IEEE spec.	802.15.1	802.15.3a *	802.15.4	802.11a/b/g
Frequency band	2.4 GHz	3.1-10.6 GHz	868/915 MHz; 2.4 GHz	2.4 GHz; 5 GHz
Max signal rate	1 Mb/s	110 Mb/s	250 Kb/s	54 Mb/s
Nominal range	10 m	10 m	10 - 100 m	100 m
Nominal TX power	0 - 10 dBm	-41.3 dBm/MHz	(-25) - 0 dBm	15 - 20 dBm
Number of RF channels	79	(1-15)	1/10; 16	14 (2.4 GHz)
Channel bandwidth	1 MHz	500 MHz - 7.5 GHz	0.3/0.6 MHz; 2 MHz	22 MHz
Modulation type	GFSK	BPSK, QPSK	BPSK (+ ASK), O-QPSK	BPSK, QPSK COFDM, CCK, M-QAM
Spreading	FHSS	DS-UWB, MB-OFDM	DSSS	DSSS, CCK, OFDM
Coexistence mechanism	Adaptive freq. hopping	Adaptive freq. hopping	Dynamic freq. selection	Dynamic freq. selection, transmit power control (802.11h)
Basic cell	Piconet	Piconet	Star	BSS
Extension of the basic cell	Scatternet	Peer-to-peer	Cluster tree, Mesh	ESS
Max number of cell nodes	8	8	> 65000	2007
Encryption	E0 stream cipher	AES block cipher (CTR, counter mode)	AES block cipher (CTR, counter mode)	RC4 stream cipher (WEP), AES block cipher
Authentication	Shared secret	CBC-MAC (CCM)	CBC-MAC (ext. of CCM)	WPA2 (802.11i)
Data protection	16-bit CRC	32-bit CRC	16-bit CRC	32-bit CRC

* Unapproved draft.

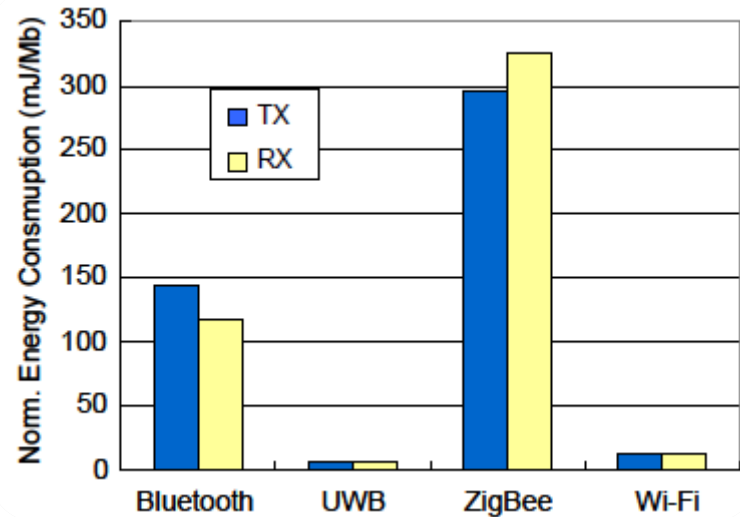
• Acronyms: ASK (amplitude shift keying), GFSK (Gaussian frequency SK), BPSK/QPSK (binary/quadrature phase SK), O-QPSK (offset-QPSK), OFDM (orthogonal frequency division multiplexing), COFDM (coded OFDM), MB-OFDM (multiband OFDM), M-QAM (M-ary quadrature amplitude modulation), CCK (complementary code keying), FHSS/DSSS (frequency hopping/direct sequence spread spectrum), BSS/ESS (basic/extended service set), AES (advanced encryption standard), WEP (wired equivalent privacy), WPA (Wi-Fi protected access), CBC-MAC (cipher block chaining message authentication code), CCM (CTR with CBC-MAC), CRC (cyclic redundancy check).



Power

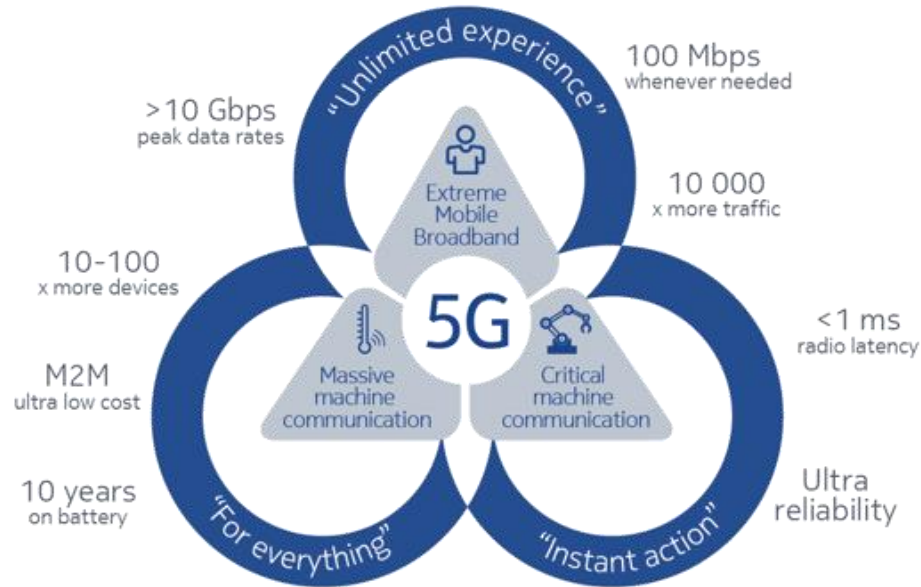


Energy

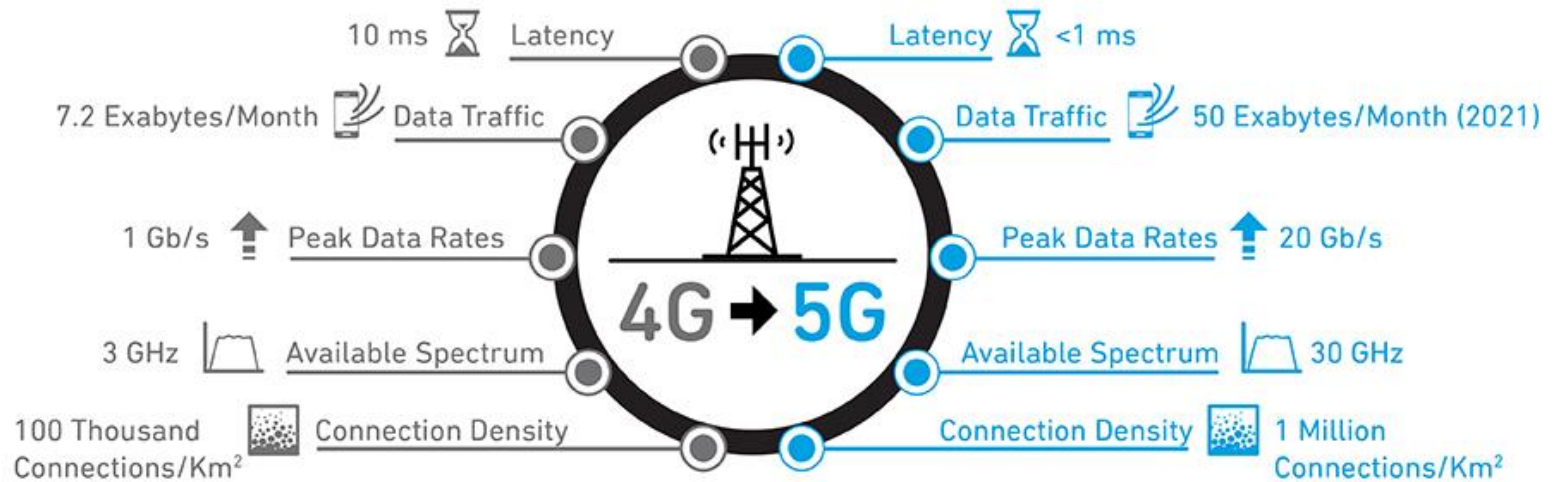




One ring to rule all the others...



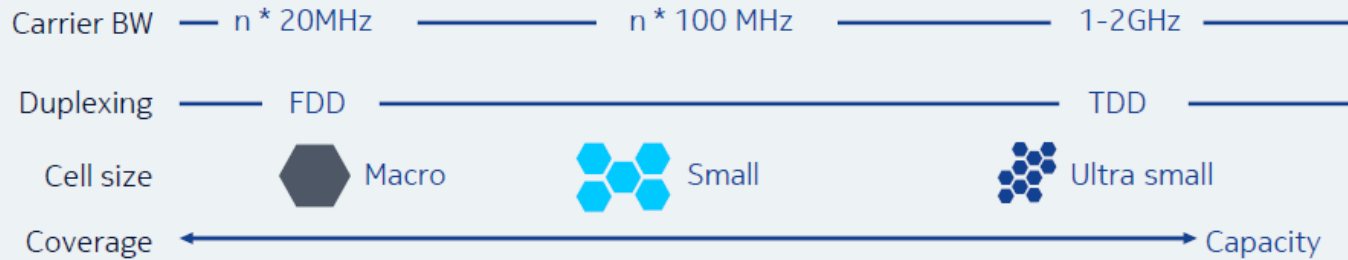
Comparing 4G and 5G



The number of frequency bands explodes...



Different characteristics, licensing, sharing and usage schemes



WRC2015 outcome

Agenda Item for WRC 2019 to identify spectrum for IMT2020

Ongoing studies will focus on bands:

- 24.25-27.5 GHz
- 37-40.5 GHz
- 42.5-43.5 GHz
- 45.5-47 GHz
- 47.2-50.2 GHz
- 50.4-52.6 GHz
- 66-76 GHz
- 81-86 GHz

UHF band will be revisited in WRC 2023

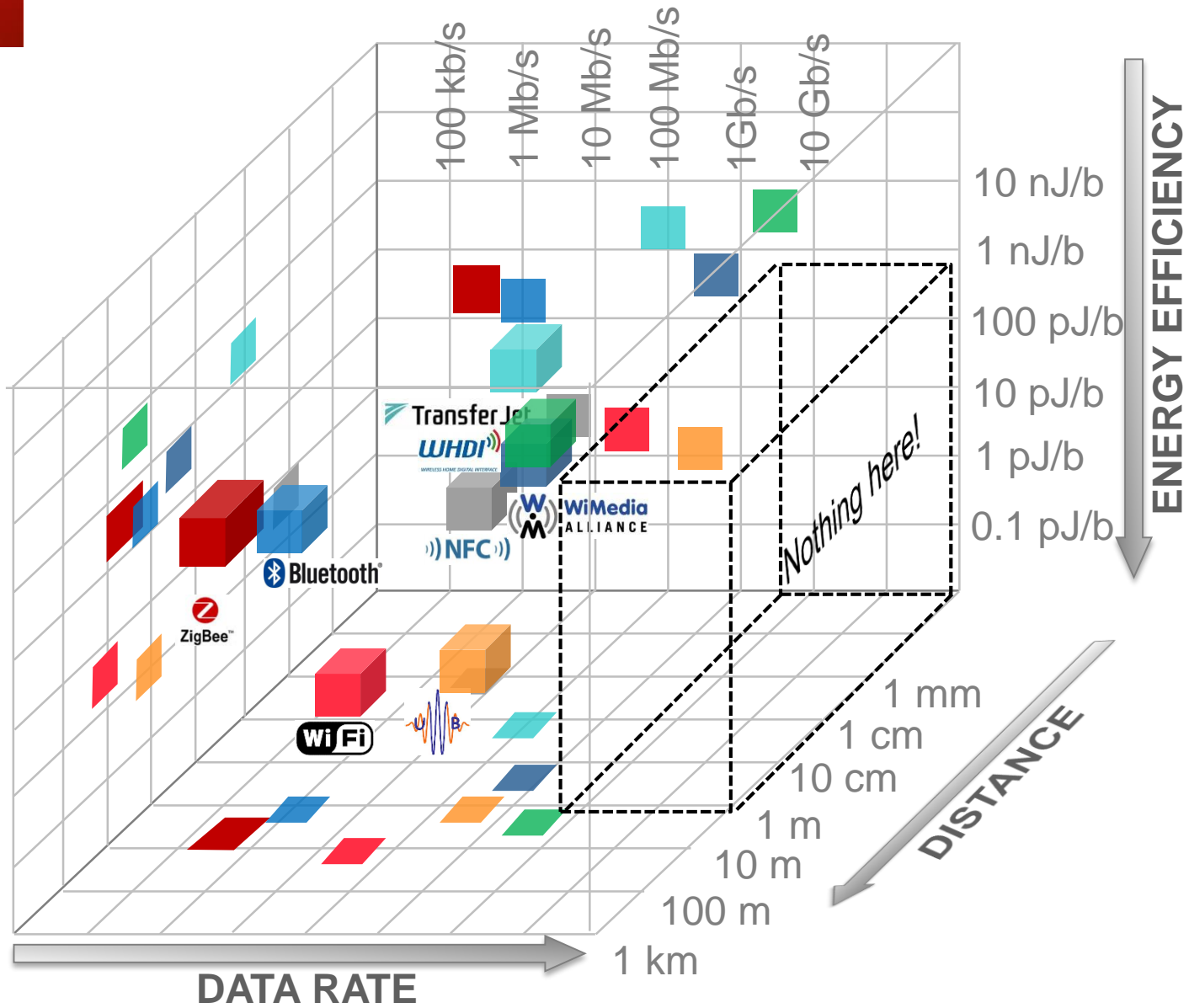
• Sub-6 GHz bands

- Many bands xxxMHz ... GHz
- Long range.
- Medium and high-data rate.

• mmW bands

- 28 GHz ... 140 GHz
- Short range.
- Ultra-high data rate.

A 3D VIEW OF RF COMMUNICATION STANDARDS



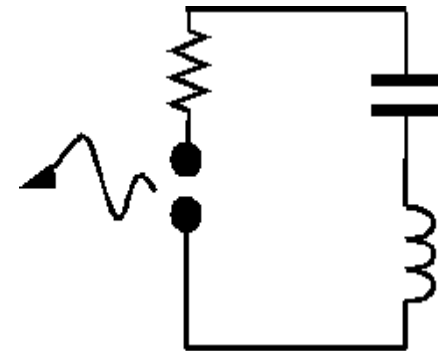
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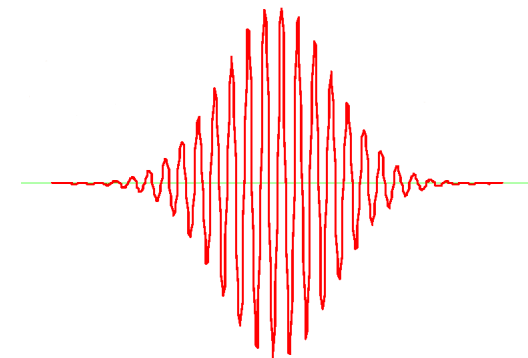


The Spark transmitter: Hertz ~1888

- Hertz “invented” the first **transmitter** (*emitter*) when trying to demonstrate Maxwell’s theory about the existence of electromagnetic waves.
- A capacitor is charged to a high voltage by an induction coil.
- When the potential across it is sufficiently high to break down the insulation of air in the gap, a spark occurs.
- Some sort of antenna launches a wave (rich in harmonics - **first UWB system!**).
- Since the spark has a low resistance (an ohm or two), the spark discharge is equivalent to the closing of an L-C-R circuit. The condenser then discharges through the conducting spark, and the discharge takes the form of a damped oscillation, at a frequency determined by the resonant frequency of the spark transmitter.



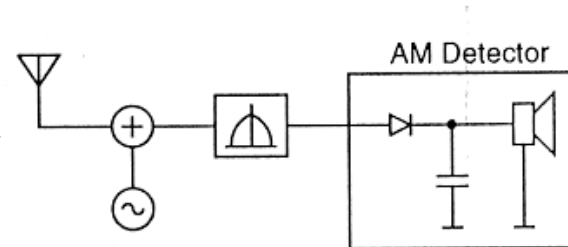
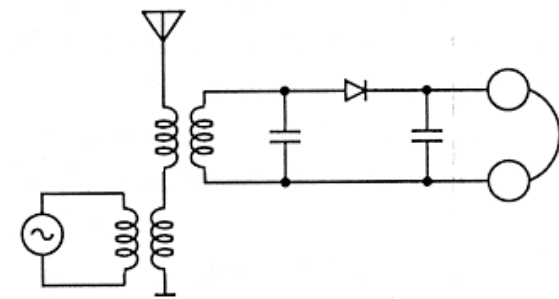
Simplified scheme





The Heterodyne receiver: Fessenden 1902

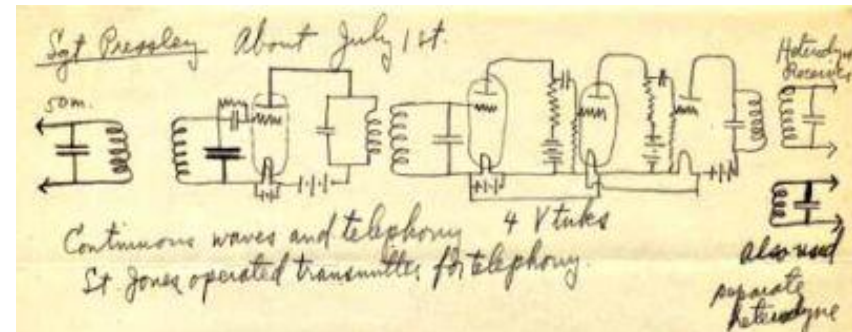
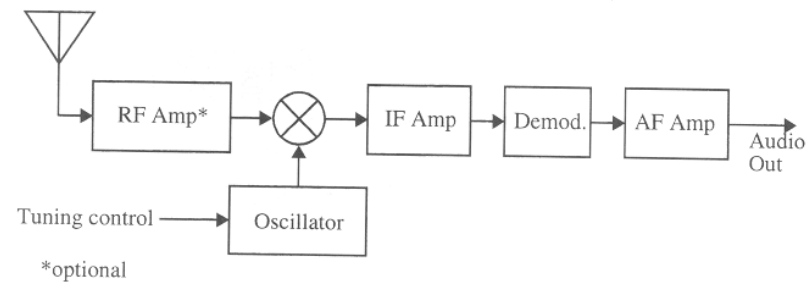
- Fessenden also patented in 1902 the **heterodyne** receiver. (to heterodyne=to mix different signals)
- The **local oscillator** was introduced for the first time. It allowed tuning to the received carrier.
- Sensitivity was also increased: the oscillator signal was strong enough to switch the diode on (despite weak incoming signals).
- A significant problem (in later years) was that the oscillator tone was also radiated to the antenna. In subsequent receivers, **isolation** between the oscillator and the antenna became critical.
- The heterodyne receiver used **frequency conversion** for the first time (although this concept was still unrecognized by the inventors).



The Superheterodyne receiver: Armstrong 1918



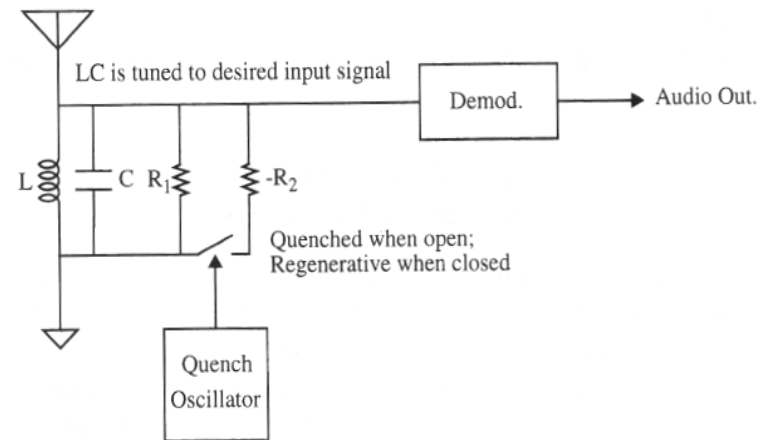
- Following Fessenden's heterodyne concept, he proposed a two-stage receiver. The input RF signal was translated to a **intermediate frequency (IF)**, which could be easily amplified and demodulated.
- The amplifier and detector work at a fixed IF frequency, while the only **tuning** happens at the LO. This allows using the same receiver for many RF signals.
- This **superheterodyne** receiver was the first mass-produced AM radio by RCA, and is still the basic receiver architecture used today.



Scheme of early superheterodyne receiver

The Superegenerative receiver: Armstrong 1922

- It can achieve gains as high as 100.000 with the minimum number of components (still used today in cheap circuits)
- Based on an **unstable** regenerative amplifier. The circuit is initialized periodically, thus it never **saturates**. The final oscillation is proportional to the initial condition (the input).
- The resulting output is a series of oscillation bursts whose amplitude is the input's amplitude amplified, detected by a simple AM amplifier.
- The circuit amplifies **samples** of the input, with a frequency higher than the signal bandwidth and lower than the RF carrier.



The Homodyne receiver: Colebrook 1924

- The **homodyne** receiver can be understood as a superheterodyne where the LO frequency equals the RF input, thus providing a **zero-IF** and no need of detection (demodulator).
- Colebrook first observed this effect, by using a regenerative receiver in which output was overcoupled to the input, thus an oscillation was produced. When oscillation frequency matched the input frequency, no detection was needed.
- **Synchronization** between input and oscillation was critical. De Bellescize introduced a circuit that guaranteed synchronization by detecting the difference frequency and corrected the LO. This is the principle of the **phase-locked loop**, and de Bellescize is considered the inventor of the **PLL**.

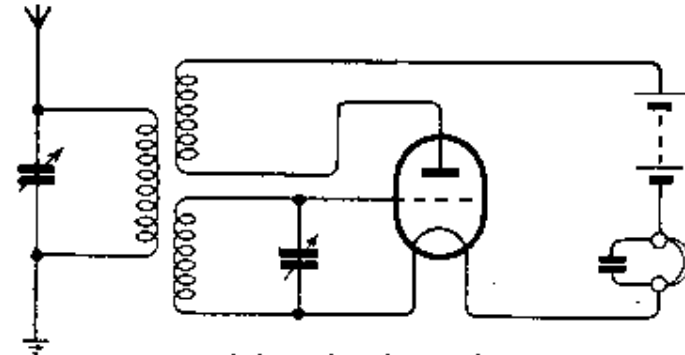
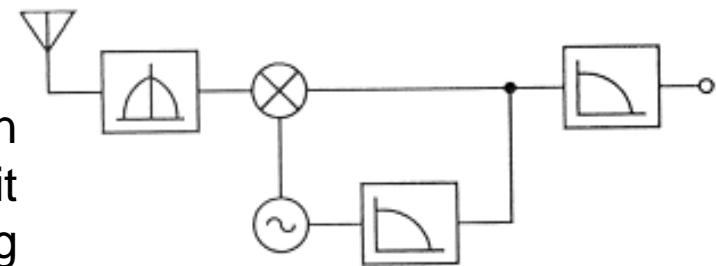


Fig.1. Colebrook's homodyn receiver



- Ultra-Wideband Impulse Radio
 - Simple Tx and acceptable Rx complexity.
 - Simple modulations schemes.
 - Low energy operation inherent (duty cycle system).
- Homodyne or Heterodyne
 - Large flexibility on RF and Baseband architectures.
 - Complex modulations possible (OFDM).
- Near Field
 - Simple electromagnetic links.
 - Simple Tx and Rx.
 - Possible remote powering.

SOMMAIRE

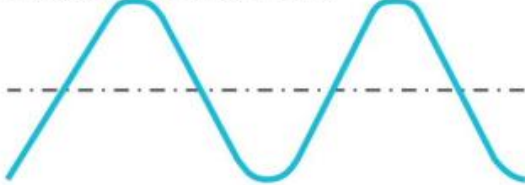
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RF COMMUNICATIONS FUNDAMENTALS

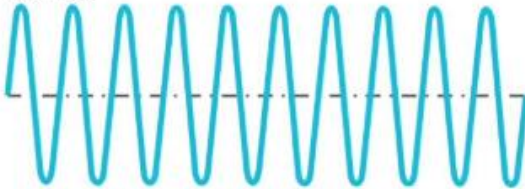
AN OVERVIEW OF MODULATION

Amplitude Modulation (AM)

Input (Modulating Wave)



Carrier

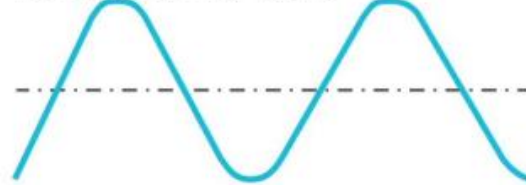


Modulated Result

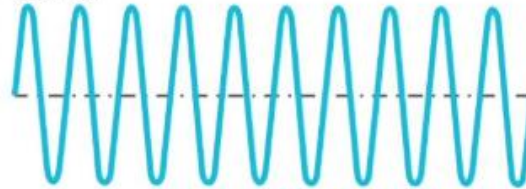


Frequency Modulation (FM)

Input (Modulating Wave)



Carrier

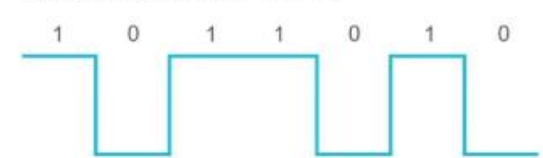


Modulated Result

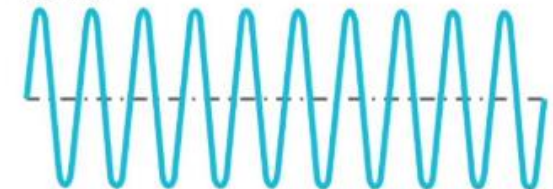


Digital Modulation

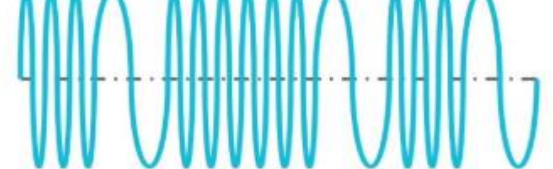
Input (Modulating Wave)



Carrier



Modulated Result



Digital modulations:

1. **Baseband digital message signal:** $m(t)$

2. **Analog sinusoidal carrier signal:**

A. Carrier signal: $A_c \cos(2\pi f_c t + \phi_c)$

3. **ASK: Amplitude Shift Keying.**

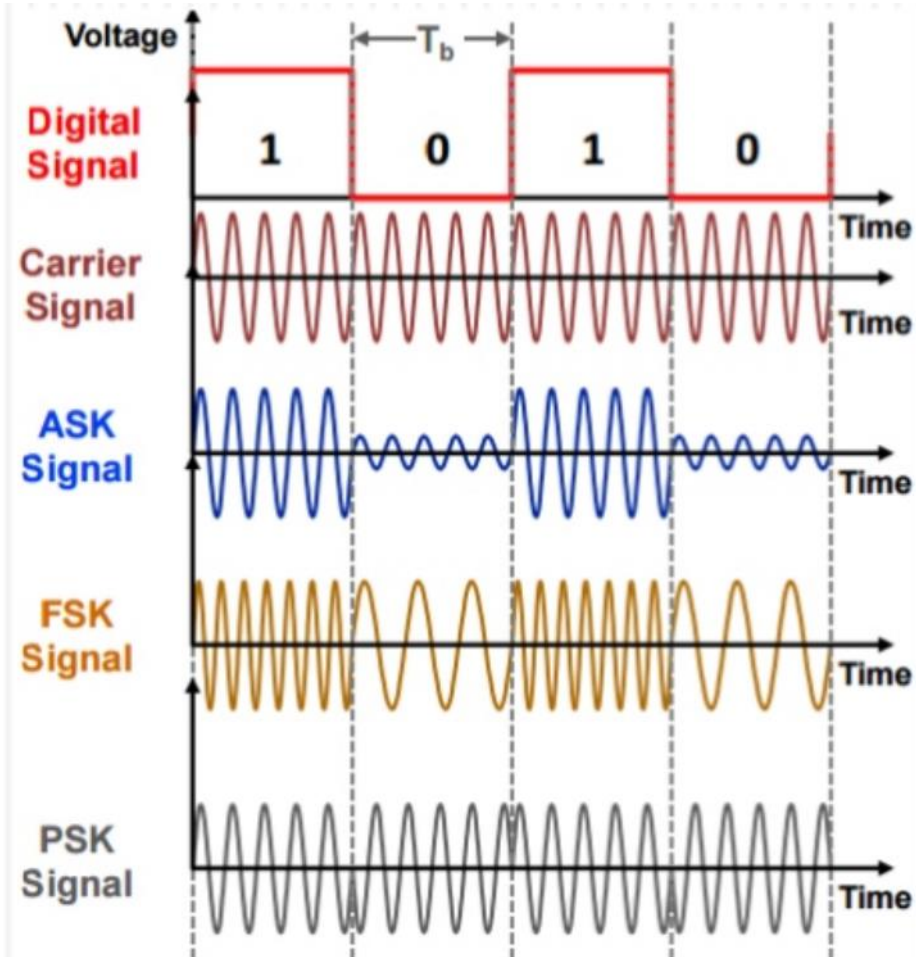
A. Message signal changes the carrier's **amplitude** : $A_i(t)$.

4. **FSK: Frequency Shift Keying.**

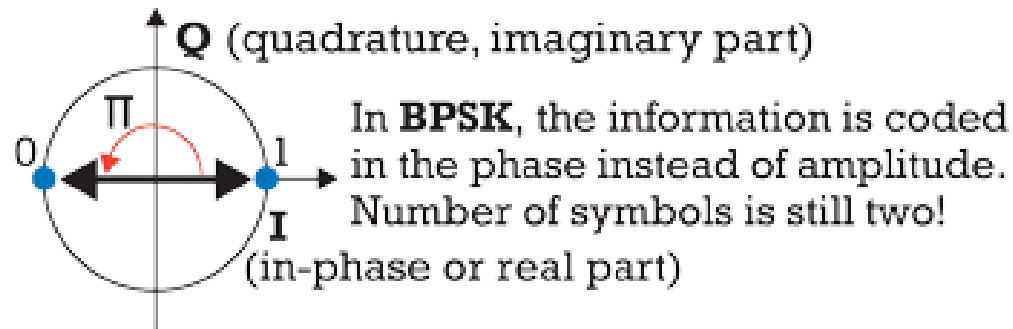
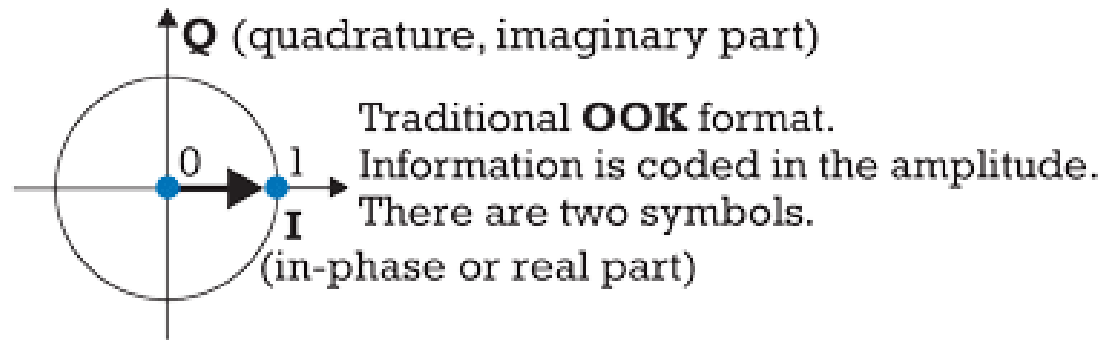
A. Message signal changes the carrier's **frequency** : $f_i(t)$.

5. **PSK: Phase Shift Keying.**

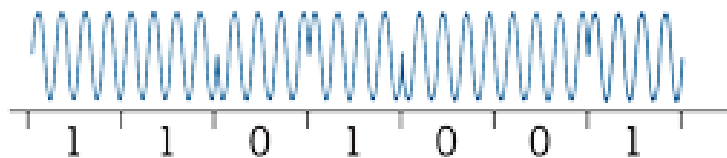
A. Message signal changes the carrier's **phase** : $\phi_i(t)$.



IQ diagrams of binary modulations

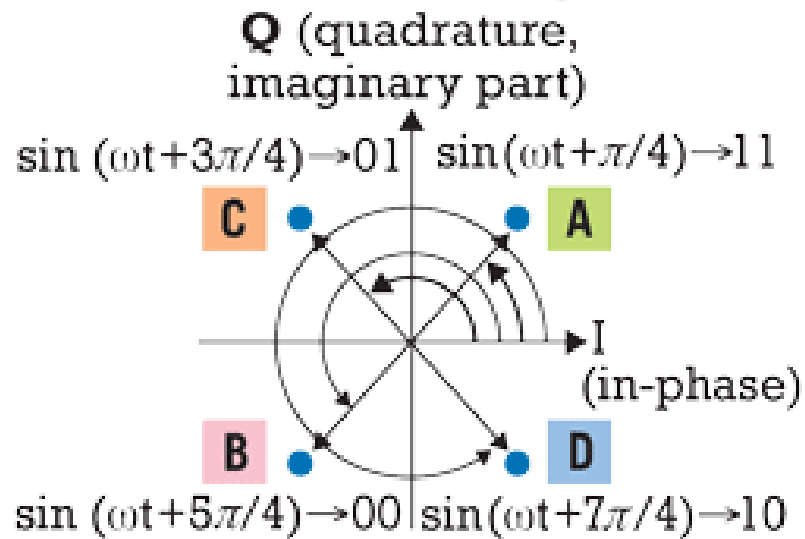


BPSK time domain waveform

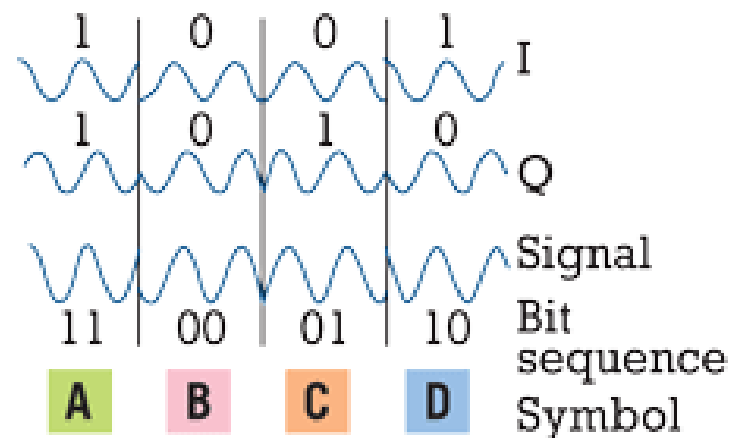


Complex modulation schemes

Constellation diagram



Time domain waveforms



We have constructed four vectors.

→ One vector position in the complex plane codes 2 bits

Complex modulation schemes

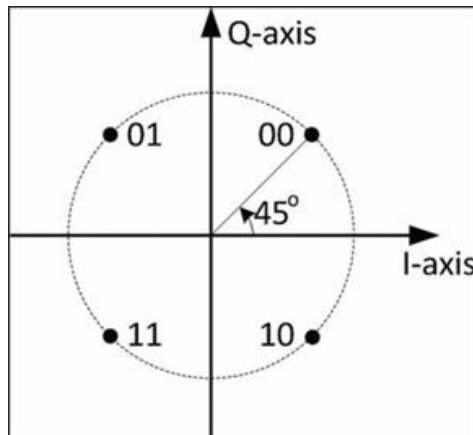
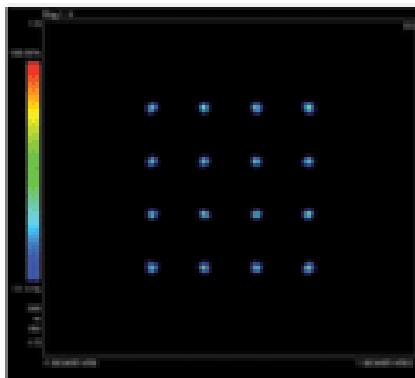
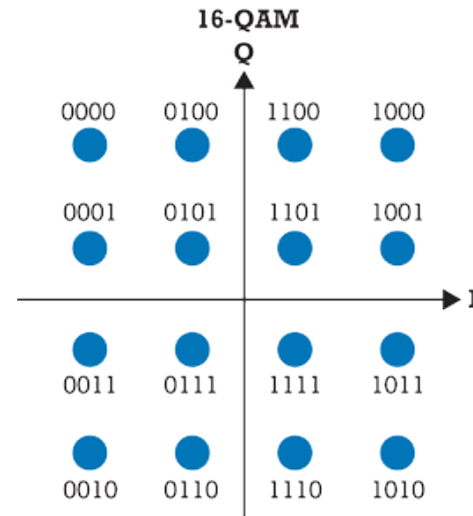
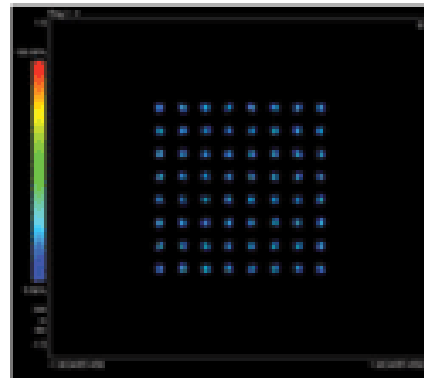


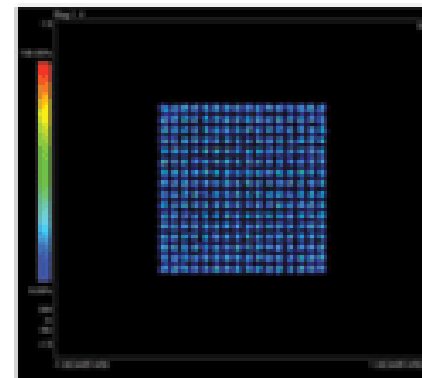
Figure 1. Constellation View of QPSK



16-QAM
4 bits/symbol



64-QAM
6 bits/symbol



256-QAM
8 bits/symbol

Complex modulation schemes

TABLE 2: SPECTRAL EFFICIENCY FOR POPULAR DIGITAL MODULATION METHODS	
Type of modulation	Spectral efficiency (bits/s/Hz)
FSK	<1 (depends on modulation index)
GMSK	1.35
BPSK	1
QPSK	2
8PSK	3
16QAM	4
64QAM	6
OFDM	>10 (depends on the type of modulation and the number of subcarriers)

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The Shannon theorem

$$C = B \log_2 (1 + S/N)$$

bandwidth of the channel

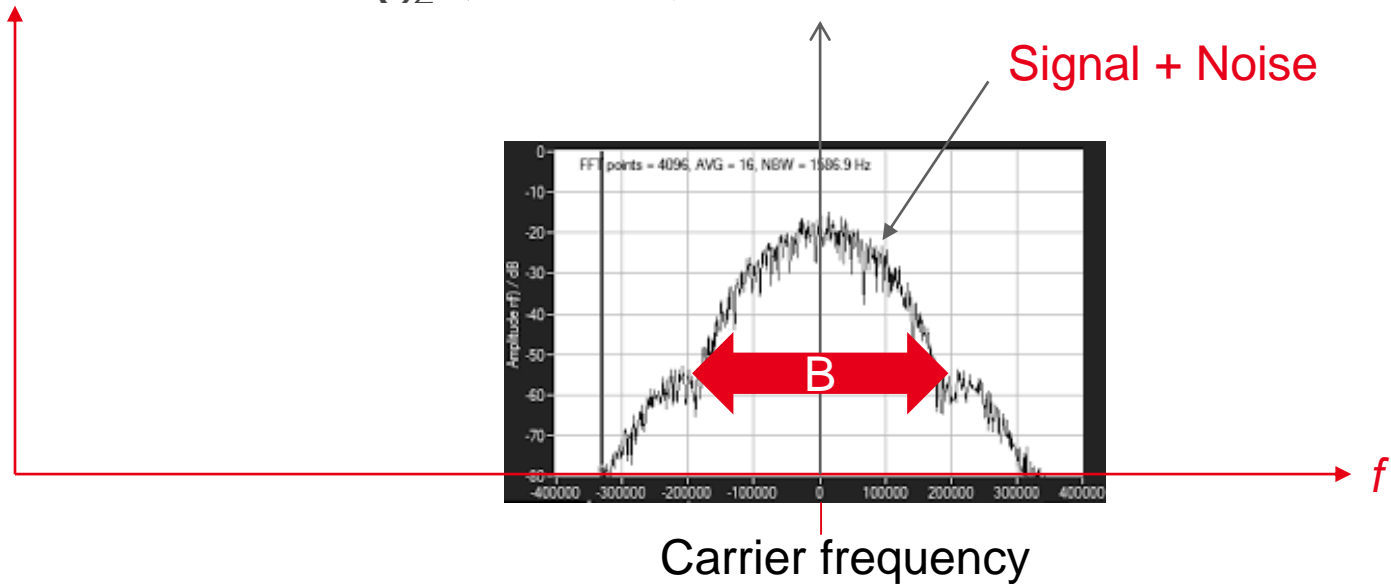
Channel capacity in bits/s

signal-to-noise ratio

The diagram shows the Shannon theorem equation $C = B \log_2 (1 + S/N)$ centered on the page. Three arrows point from descriptive text to parts of the equation: one from 'bandwidth of the channel' to the variable 'B', one from 'Channel capacity in bits/s' to the variable 'C', and one from 'signal-to-noise ratio' to the fraction 'S/N'.

The Shannon theorem

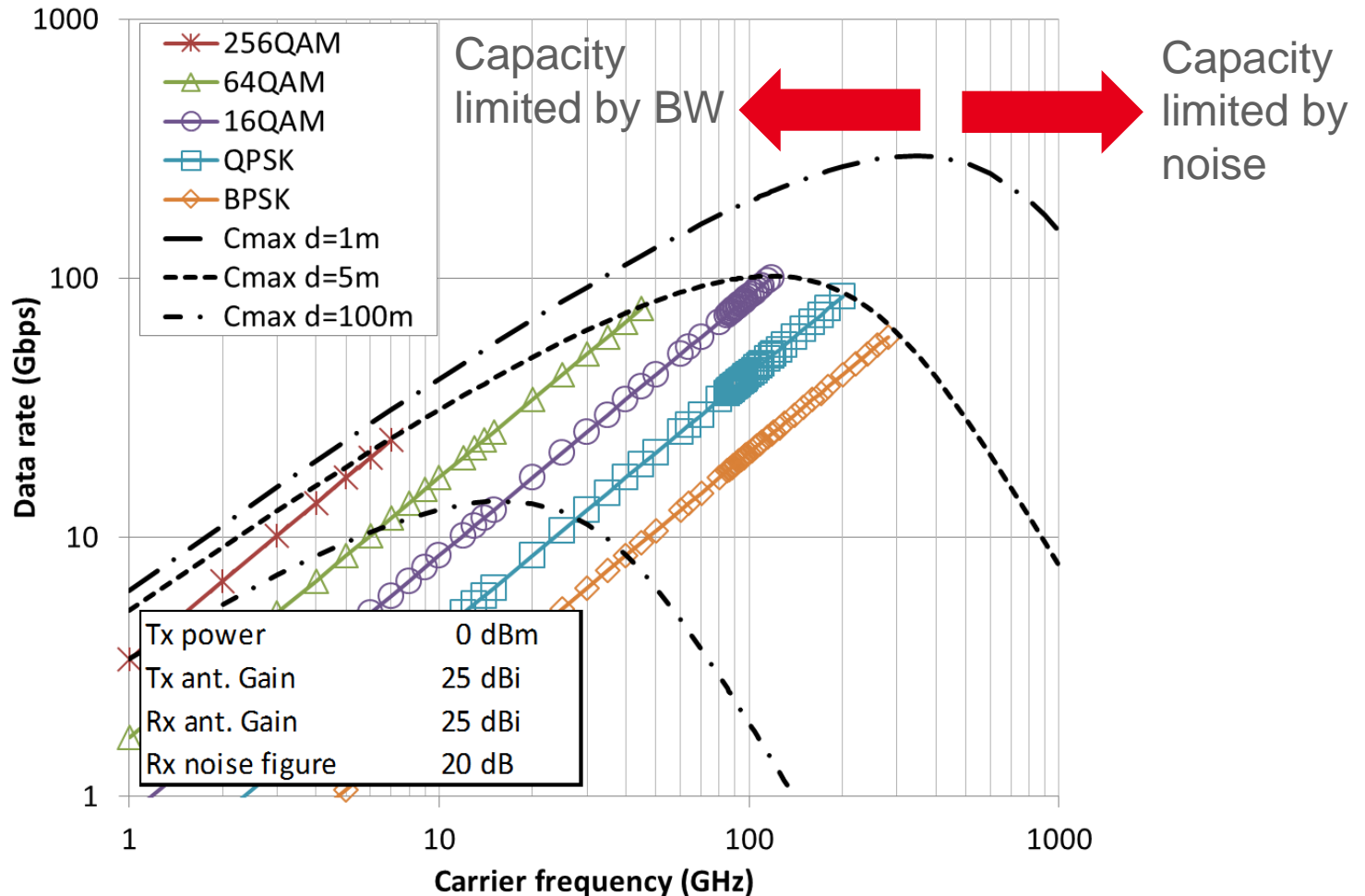
$$C = B \log_2 (1 + S/N)$$



RF COMMUNICATIONS FUNDAMENTALS

CHANNEL CAPACITY

The Shannon theorem: example BW = 20% Carrier frequency

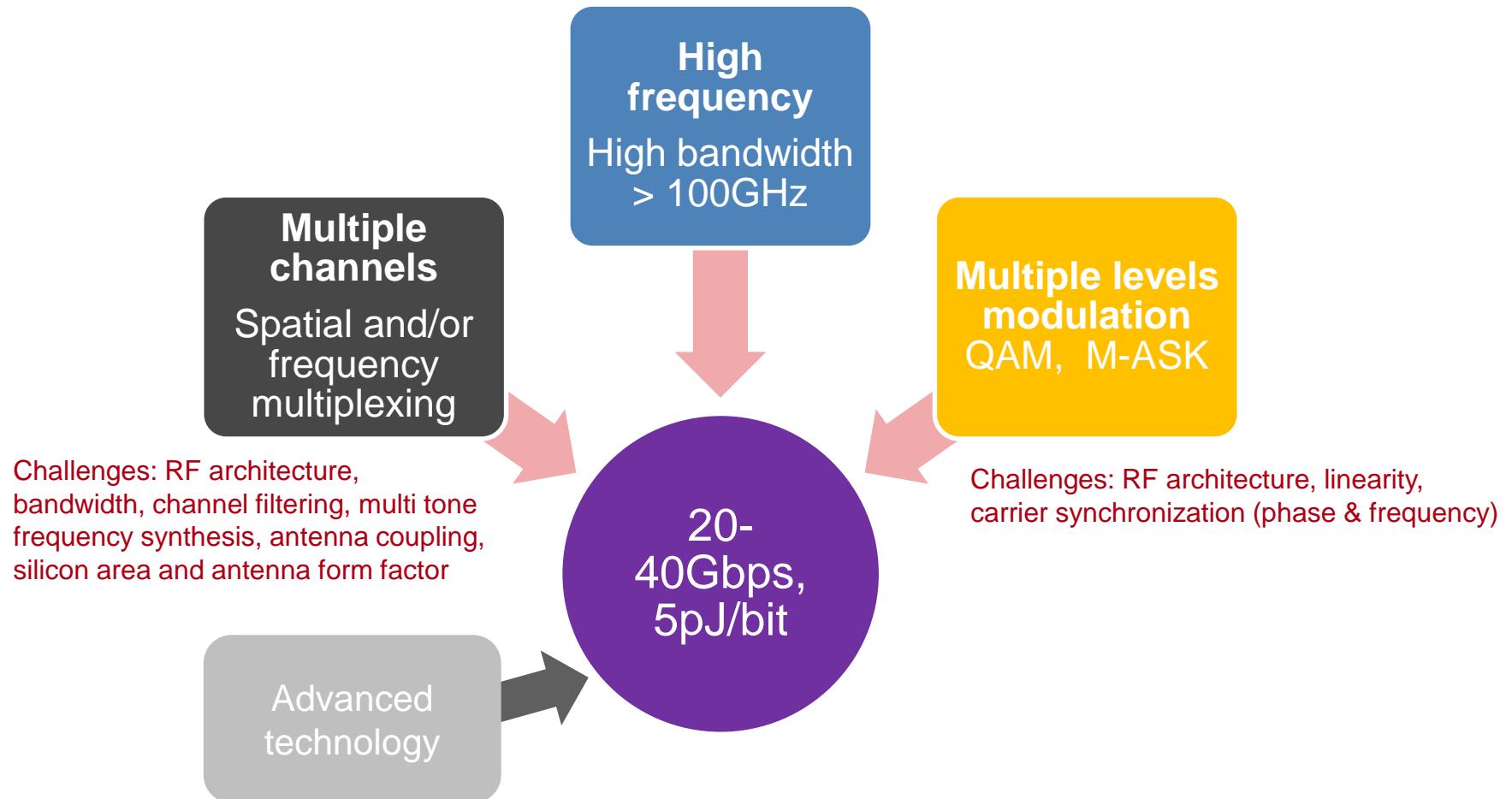


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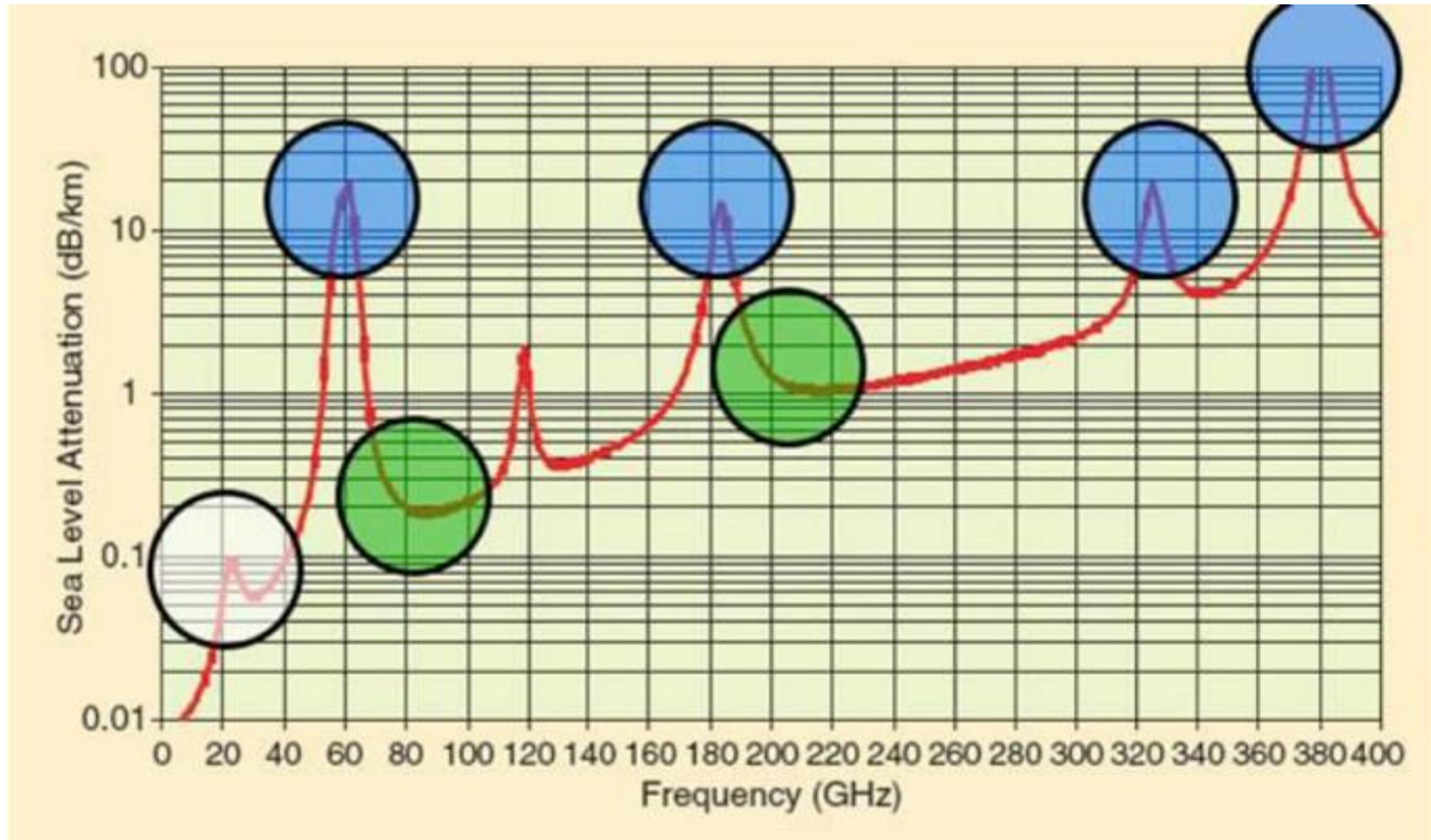
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How to achieve a high data-rate to exploit the available channel capacity?

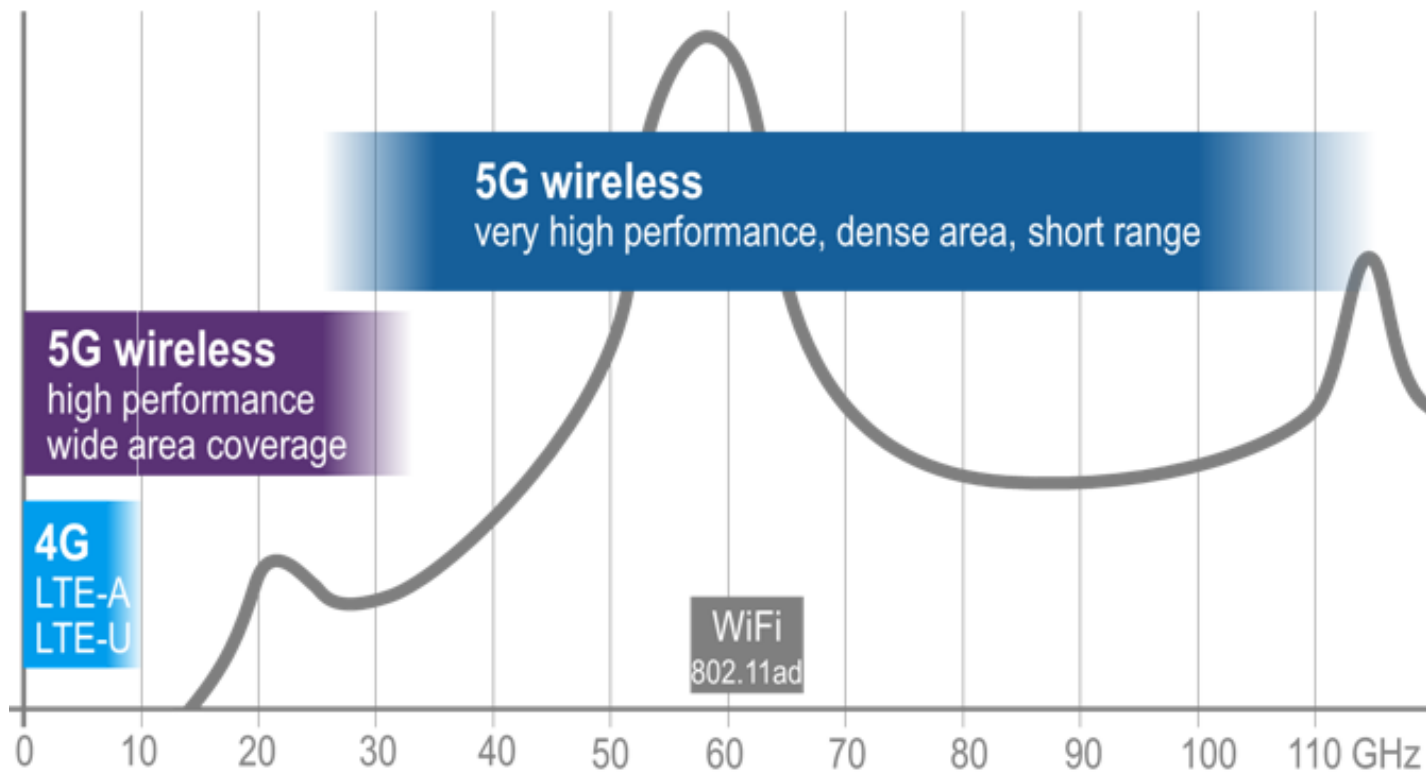
Challenges: limited range, gain, emitted power



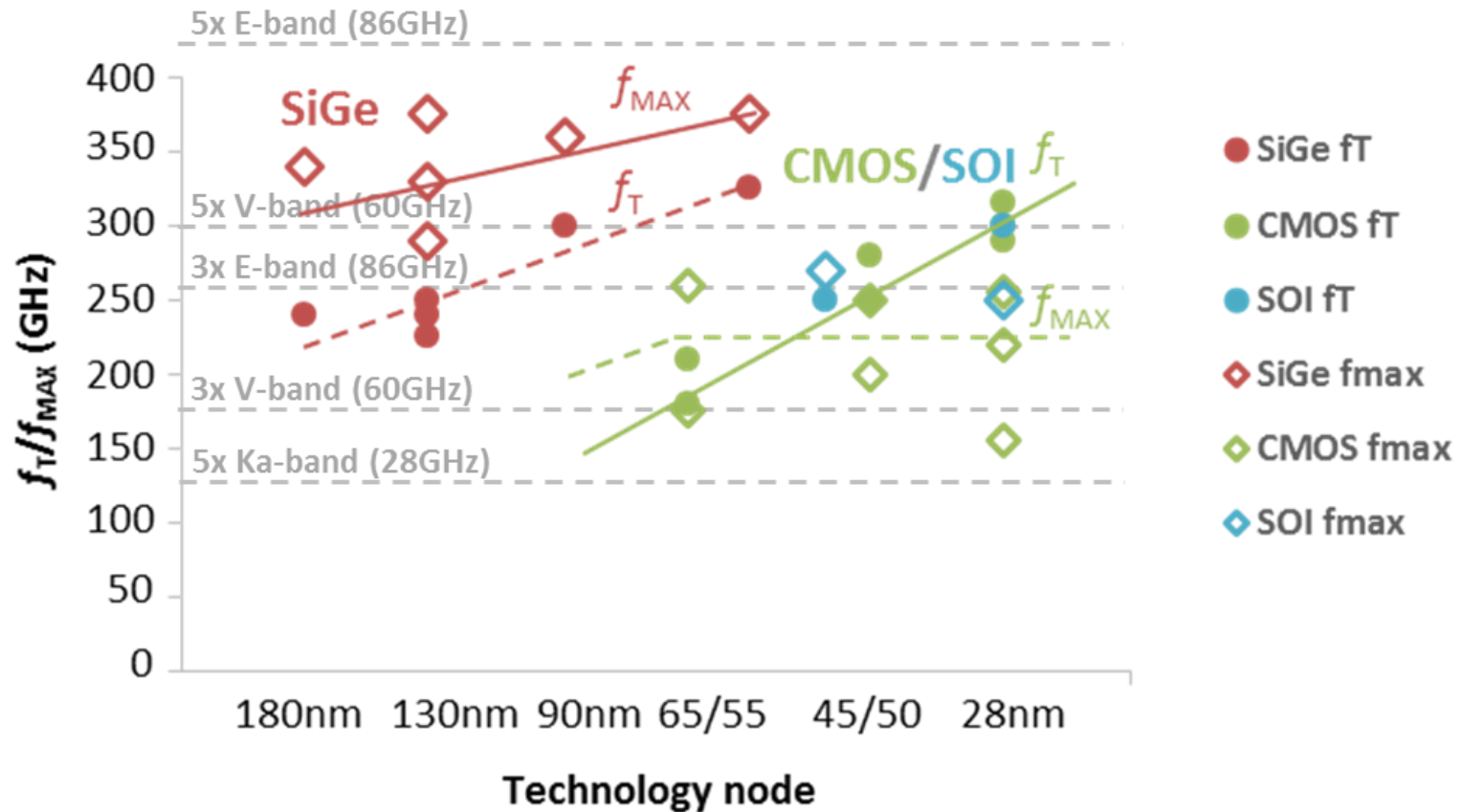
Link attenuation increases with frequency...



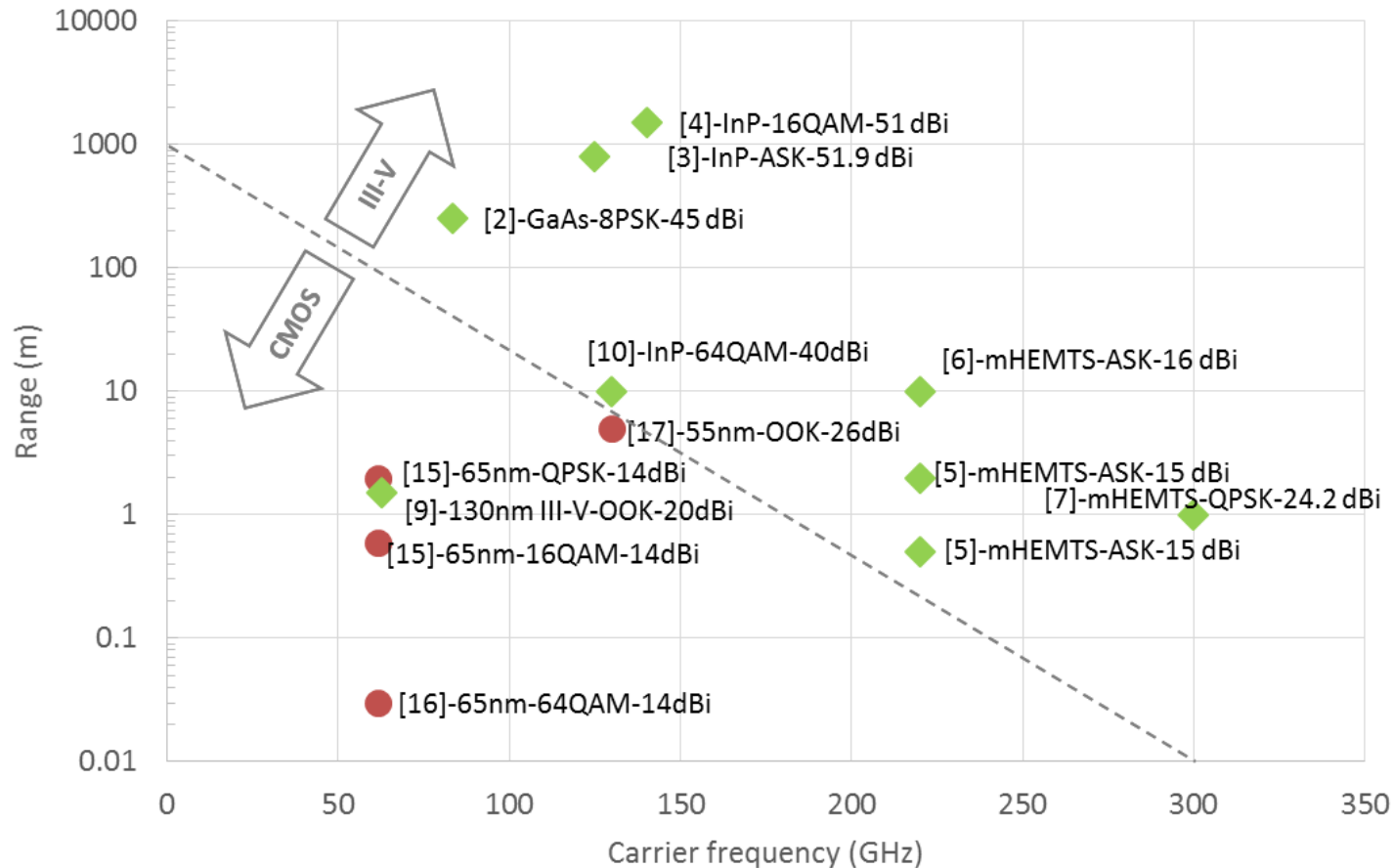
mmW in consideration for mobile communications



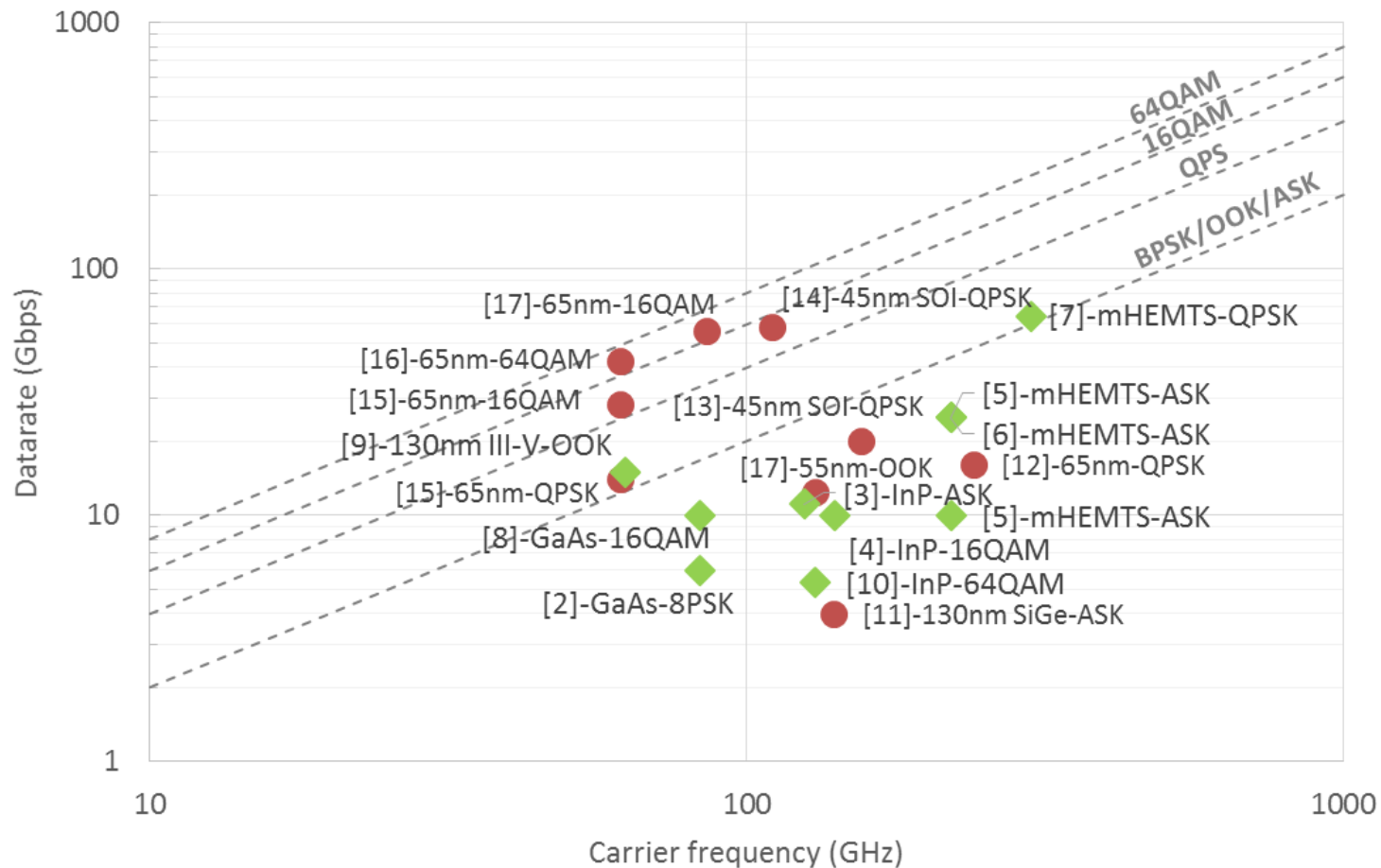
Comparison of Silicon processes for mmW applications



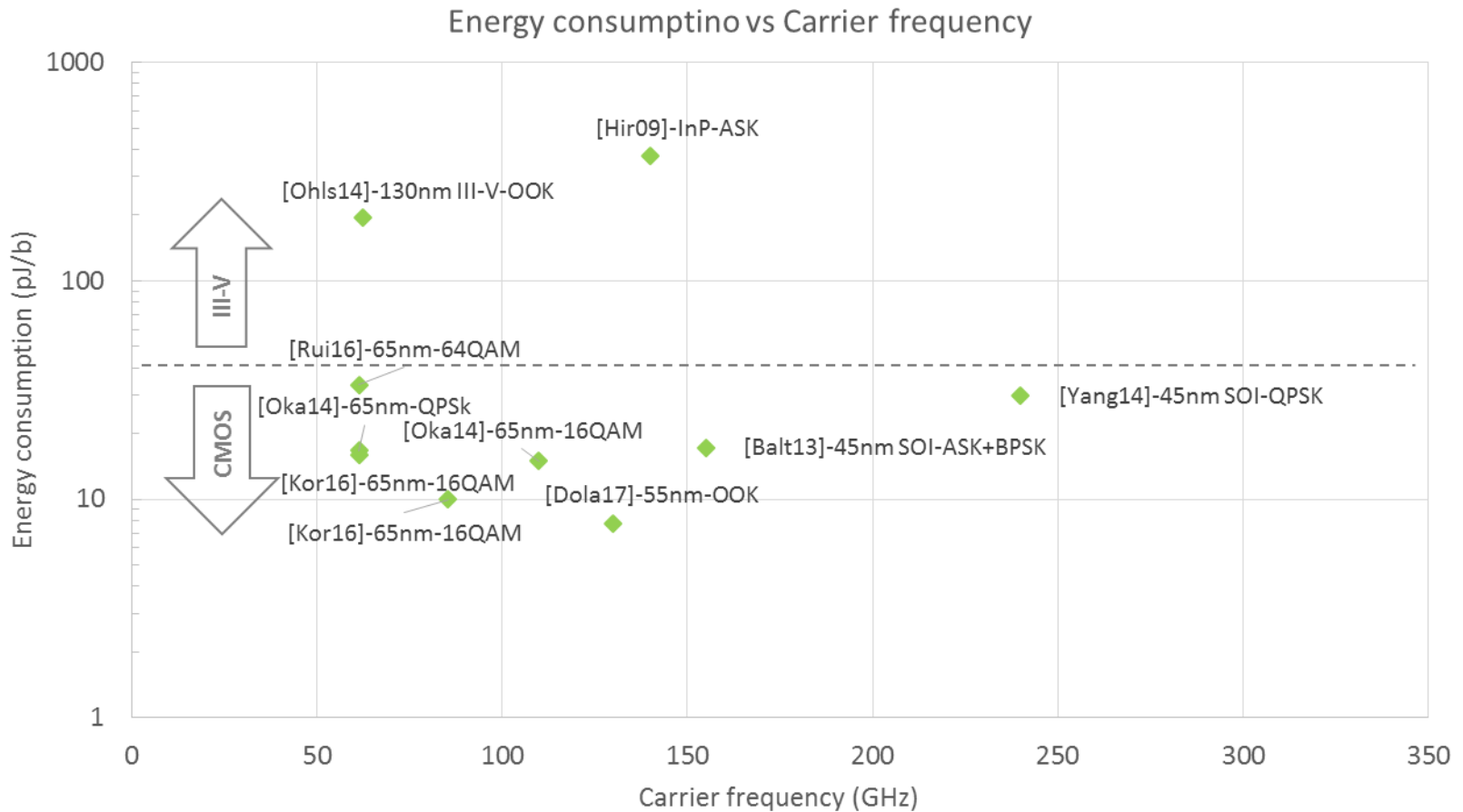
State of the art multi-Gbps radios



State of the art multi-Gbps radios



State of the art multi-Gbps radios



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