

# Wireless Communication beyond 3G – trends & challenges

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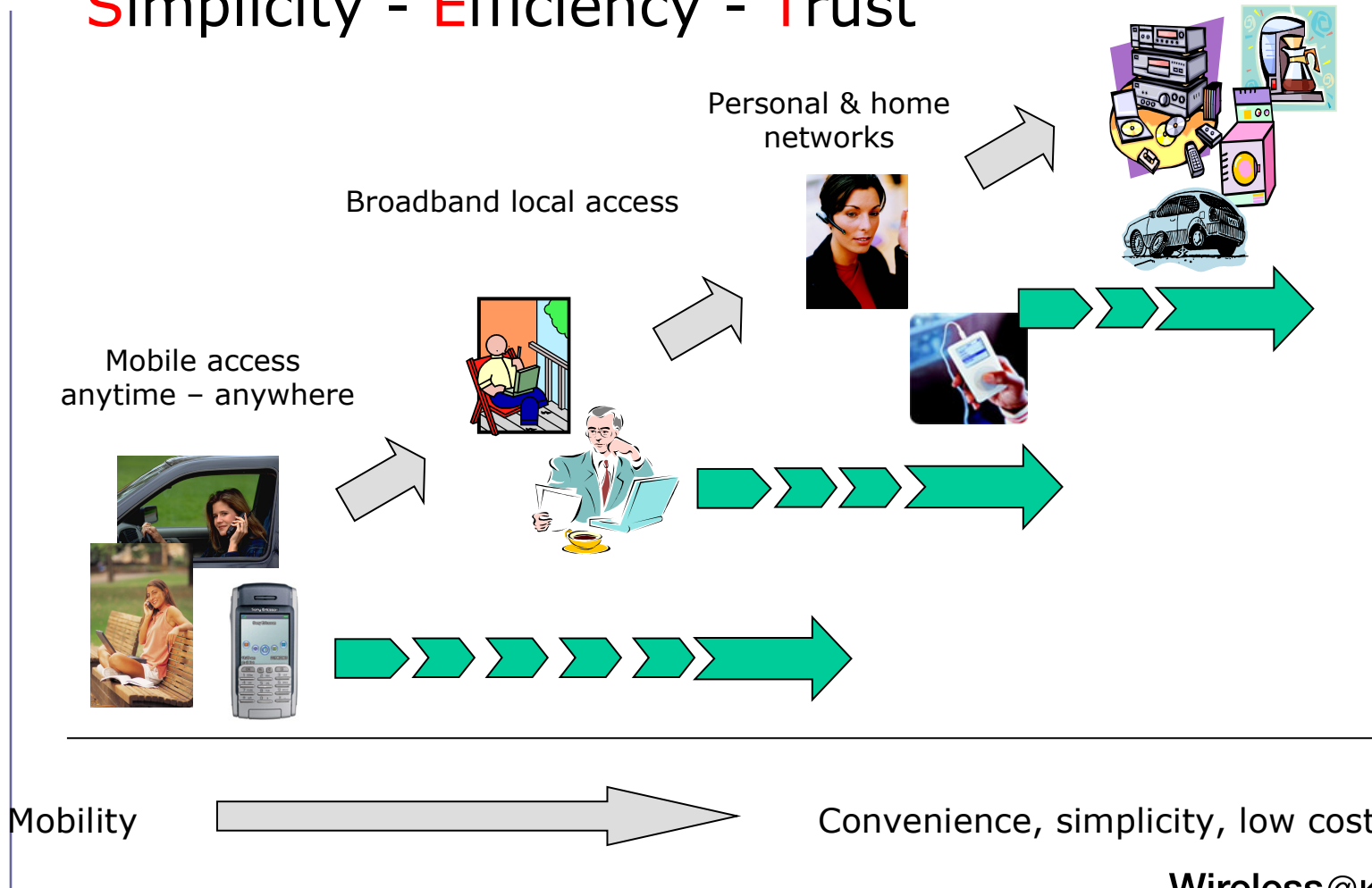
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# The wireless evolution

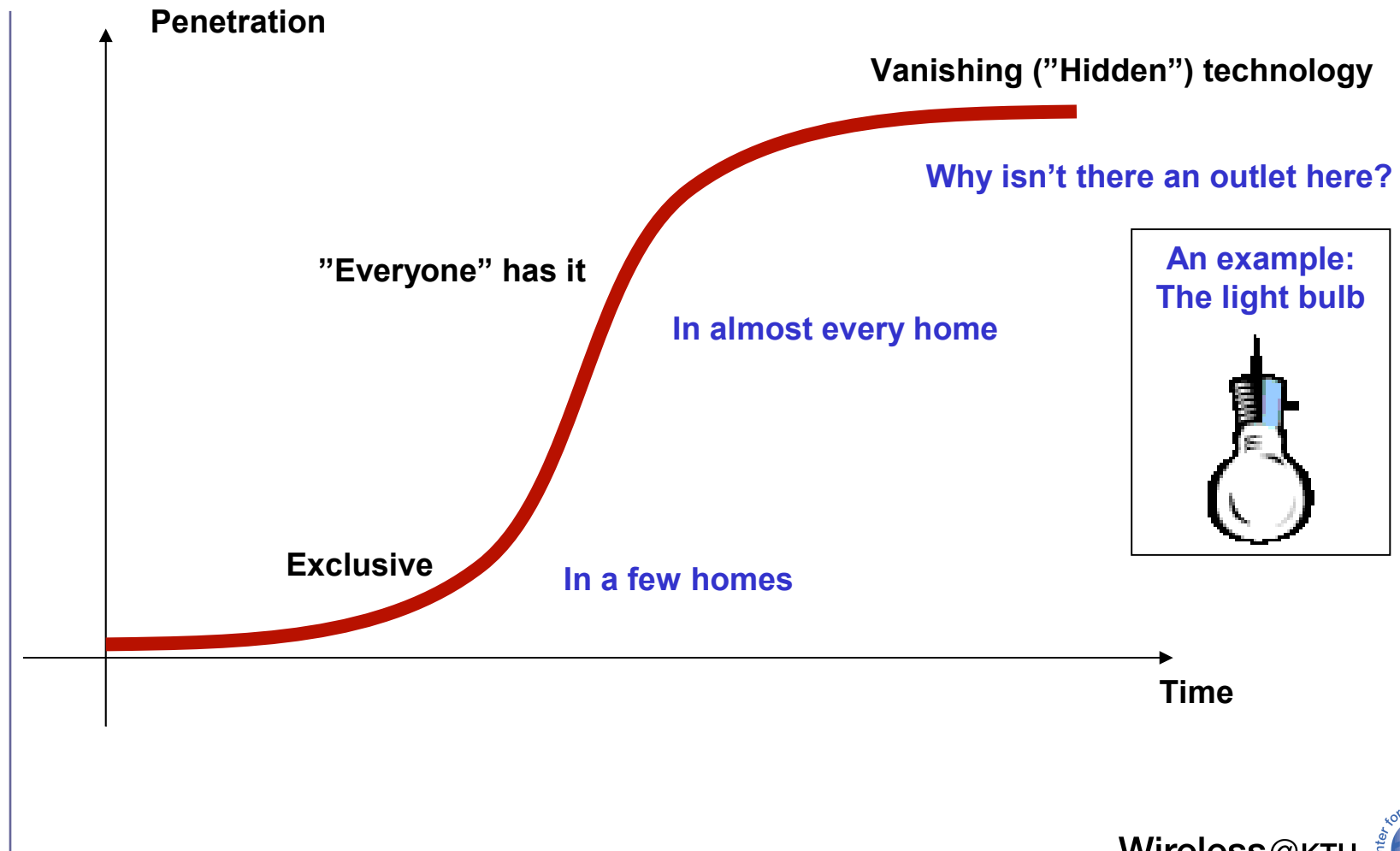
"Things that communicate"

Simplicity - Efficiency - Trust



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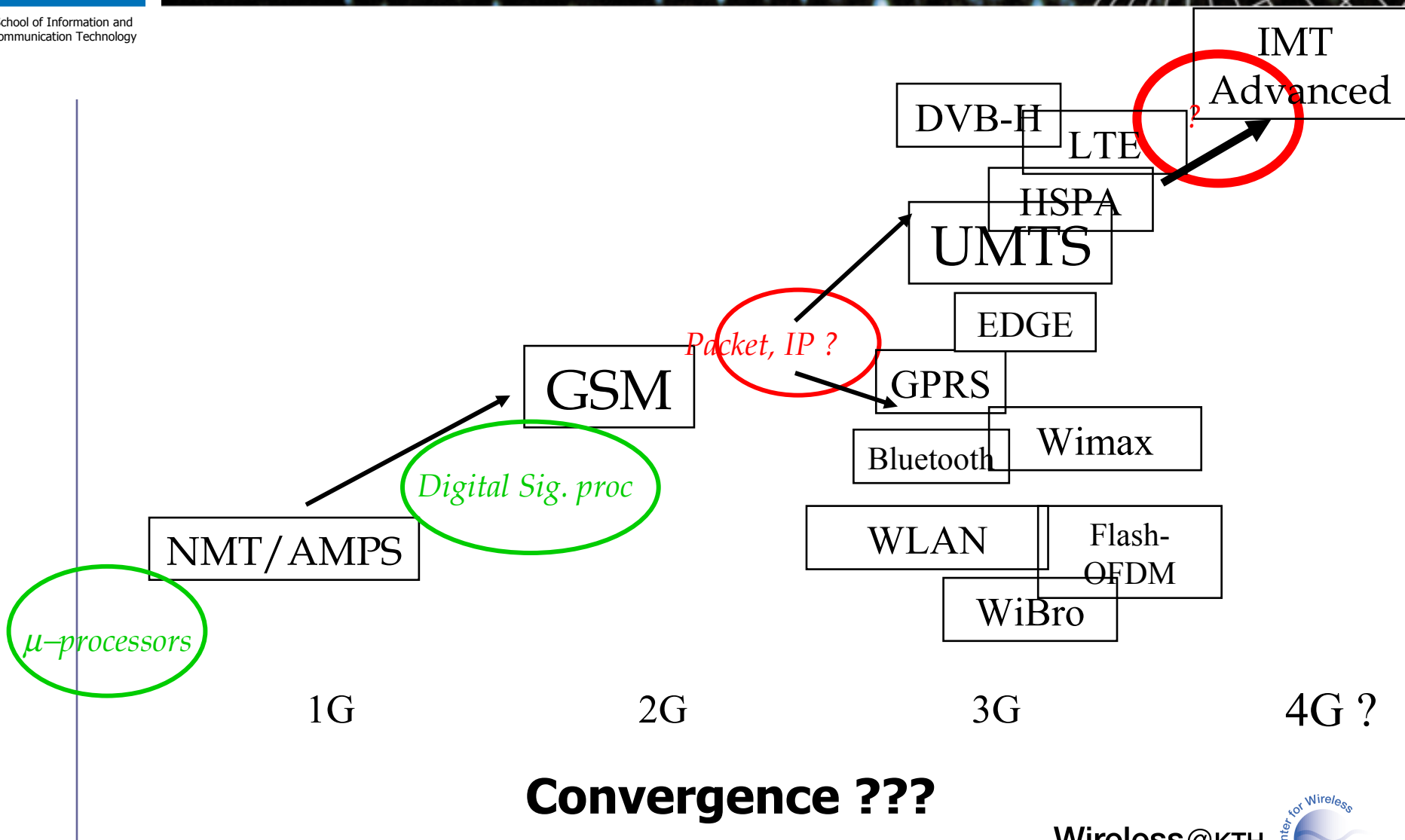
# The Long term Vision: Wireless - A “Disappearing” Technology



# Wireless Access Technologies – Playing the Generation Game



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# The challenges & potential - "showstoppers"

- Complexity – Reliability
- Energy
- Cost
- Legal issues ?
- **Spectrum ?**
- **Shannon ?**

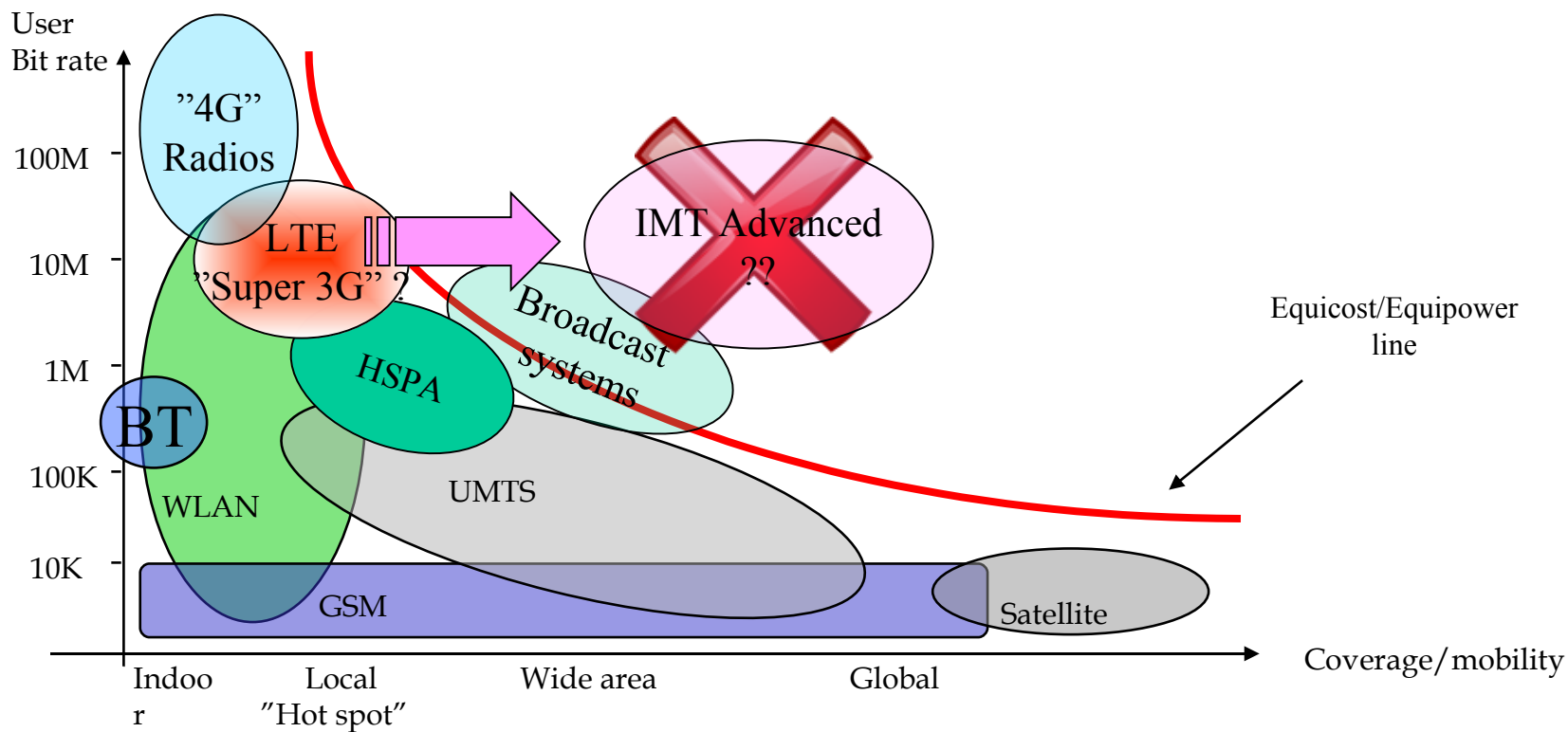
## Some solution trends

- Heterogeneous networking
- Reconfigurability





# It's not (only) about bit rates



- New radio technologies no direct replacement for 2/3G systems
- Data rate not mainly limited by technology – but by deployment density
- Do we need more access technologies ?

# Affordable infrastructure

## - The 4 cost drivers

- High bandwidth
- Wide Area
- High speed mobility & lossless handover
- Real time/low delay

$$\frac{C_{system}}{N_{user}} \propto B_{user} A_{service} f(Q)$$



# Wireless Communication Technologies - some key challenges

## Yesterday



0.1-1.0 billion of users  
Complex networks  
Complex expensive devices

- Complex to use
- Does not scale

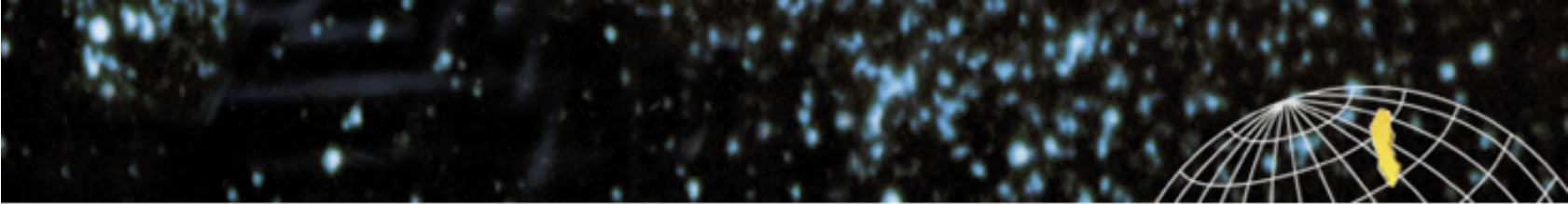
## Tomorrow



10-100 billion of users and devices  
**Even more** complex networks  
Complex but **in-expensive** devices

- Simple to use and deploy
- Extremely reliable
- Affordable for everyone



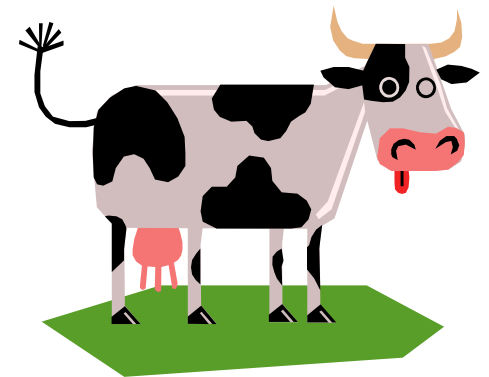


# Some technology trends

# Wireless Access: Today's paradigms

## Anytime – Anywhere – Now !

- **Single system** for all needs
- Seamless, lossless mobility required
- **Bandwidth/Capacity/Energy** are scarce resources
- **Spectrum is a scarce resource**
- Large volumes of devices needed
- Operators are needed to provide physical access
- Problems **can't** be solved by throwing bandwidth at them (cf. Fiber optic networks)
- **The wireless link IS the bottleneck**



# The old dream: One system for all ?

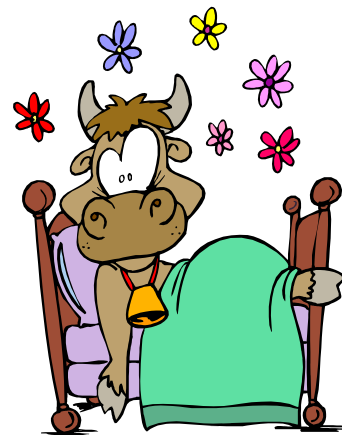


- Too different requirements
  - Not really good at anything
  - Cost determined by "worst case" requirement
- Too complex system
- Not flexible enough
  - By the time its fully deployed its likely to be "outdated"

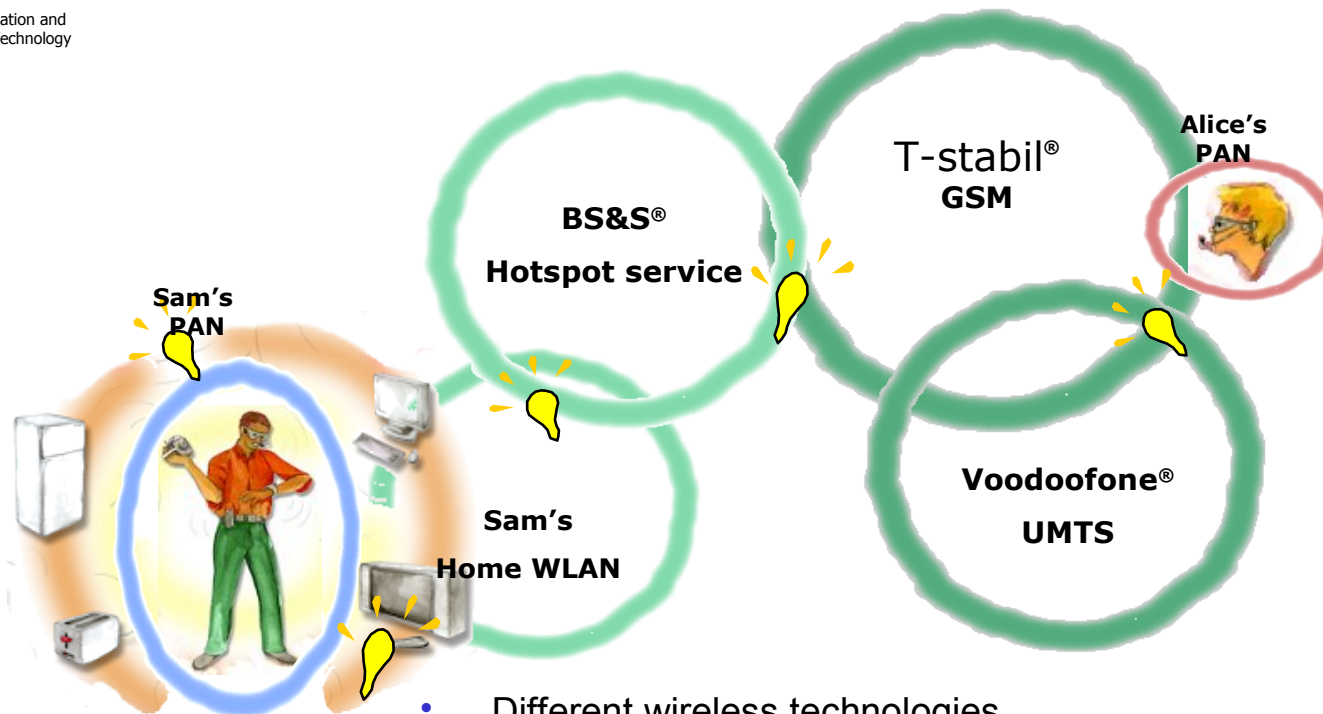
# Tomorrows paradigms

Sometime – Somewhere & when its cheap !  
Local access – on premises, where people are, between things

- **Bandwidth is not a problem**, latency & energy are
- **Storage is for free** – real-time consumption expensive
- High-speed, realtime HO not needed for "seemless" connectivity
- Local access (< 50m)
- **Spectrum is abundant**
- Operators provide connectivity not necessary local wireless access
- Problems can be solved by throwing bandwidth at them
- The wireless link is **NOT** the bottleneck



# Wireless Networks Everywhere....



- Different wireless technologies
- Competing business actors (competing for spectrum)
- Large potential cost benefits by infrastructure "sharing"
  - ...but
- Will it be **simple**, **affordable**, and **reliable** enough?



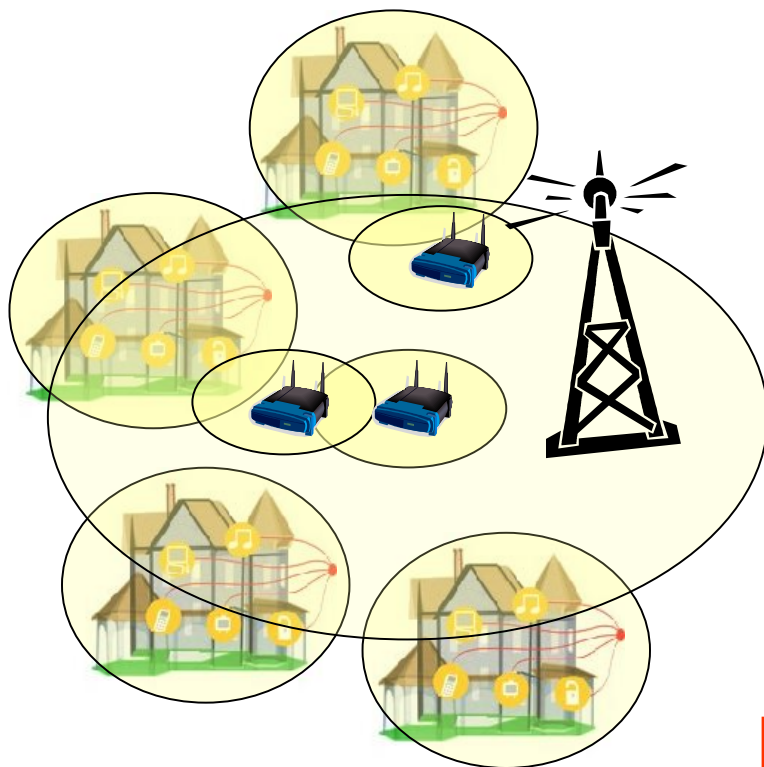
# The convergence point – the multimode terminal



- Moore law works for electronics  
– not for physical infrastructures
- Life-cycles
  - Terminals: months-years
  - Infrastructure: years-decades
- Terminals will
  - "always" contain the right mix of "tools" and use the proper spectrum
  - Tailored to customer & application needs

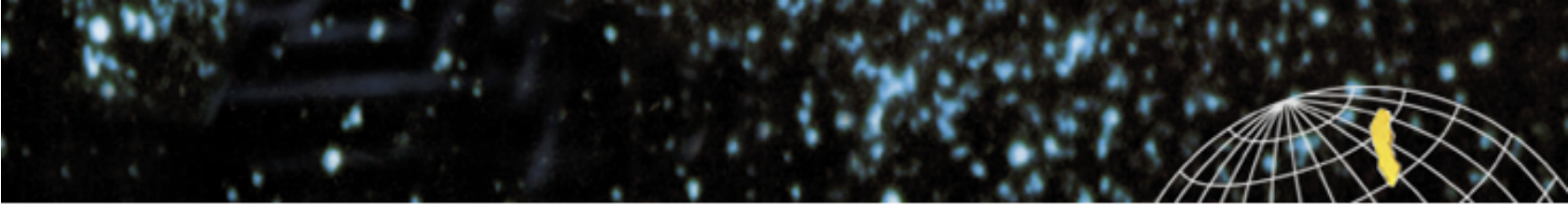
GSM/GPRS/EDGE/WCDMA/WLAN/DVB-H  
"Quadruple-band"

# The heterogenous future



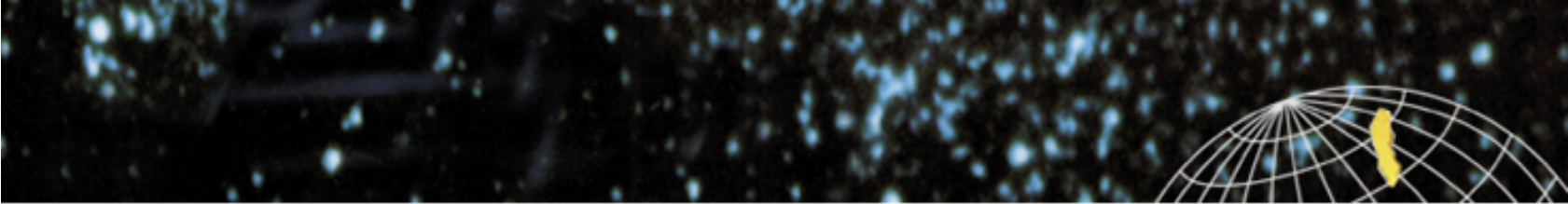
- Many technologies – for each access:
  - Partial coverage – varying data rates
  - Rudimentary coverage in rural areas
  - Moderate reliability in each access
  - Limited QoS guarantees

Reliability & Quality through  
system redundancy

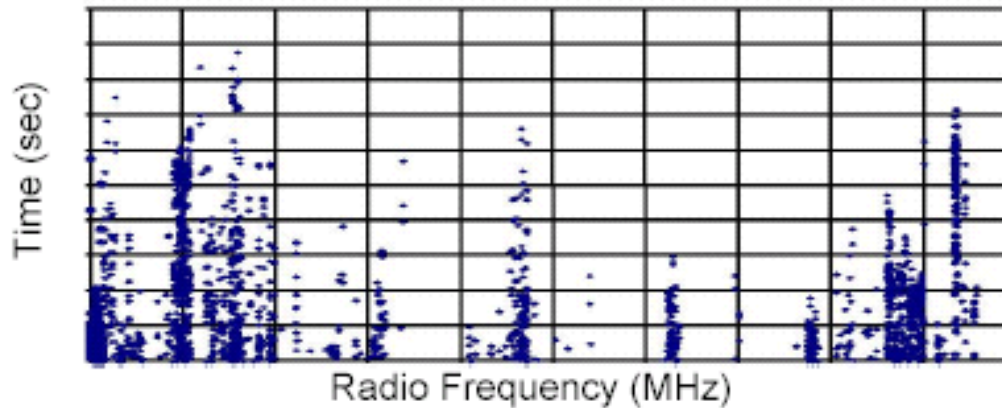


# Is there enough spectrum ?

Or is spectrum cheap enough ....



# The spectrum – a scarce resource ?



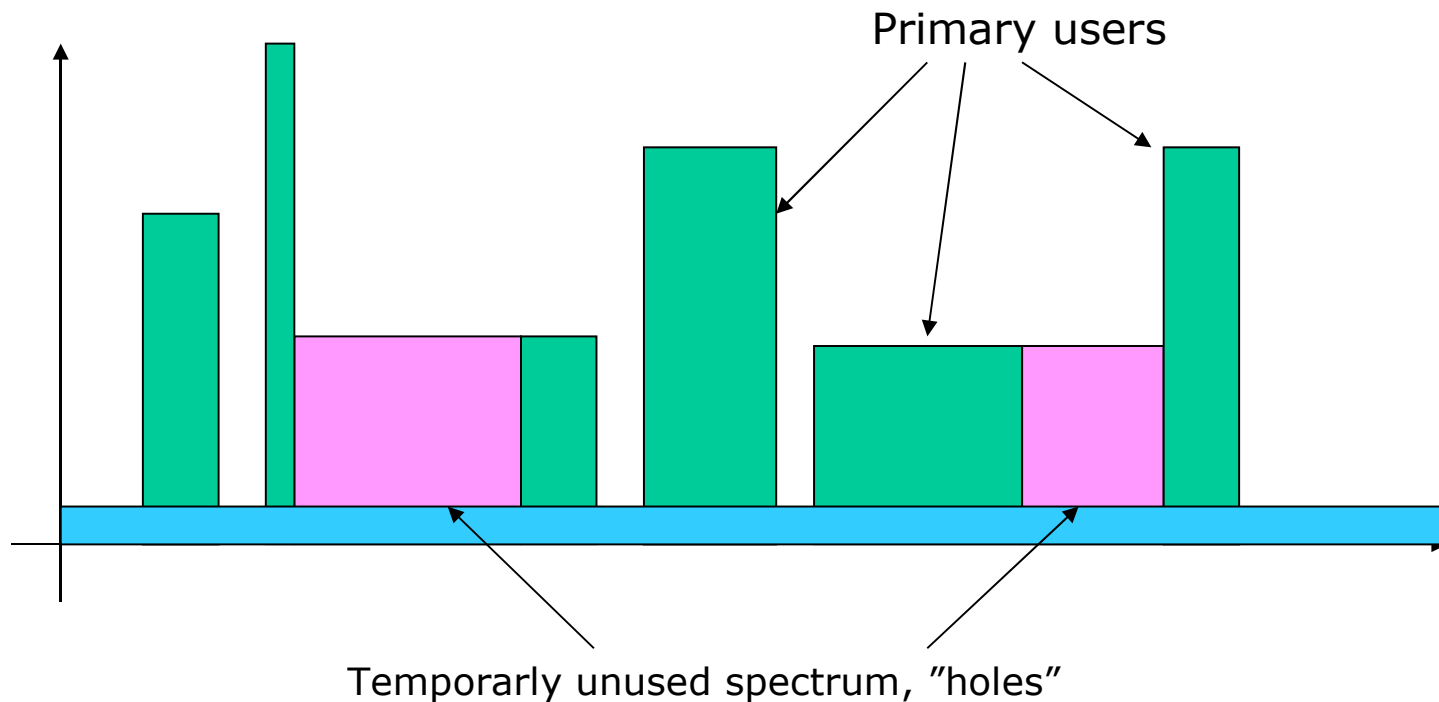
- Large part of the spectrum (appears to be) unused
- Long time constants in (re-)allocation (decades)

## Access Limitation vs Throughput limitation ?

Figures from William D. Horne: "Adaptive Spectrum Access: Using the Full Spectrum Space", MITRE Corp.

# Dynamic Access Modes

## Opportunistic (Overlay) Access ("Cognitive Radio") Underlay Access ("UWB")





# Opportunistic & Wideband Access Technical potential & challenges

- Tomorrow's radios potential
  - Highly flexible – bandwidth, waveforms, frequencies
  - Built for a dynamic demand and a dynamic environment
  - Use the spectrum more efficiently!
  - Most of the technology already exist
- Research challenges
  - Dynamic non cooperative interference control!
  - Technical mechanisms for real time trading
  - Flexibility vs. performance trade-offs (radio design)
  - System integration and regulation must fit together!!



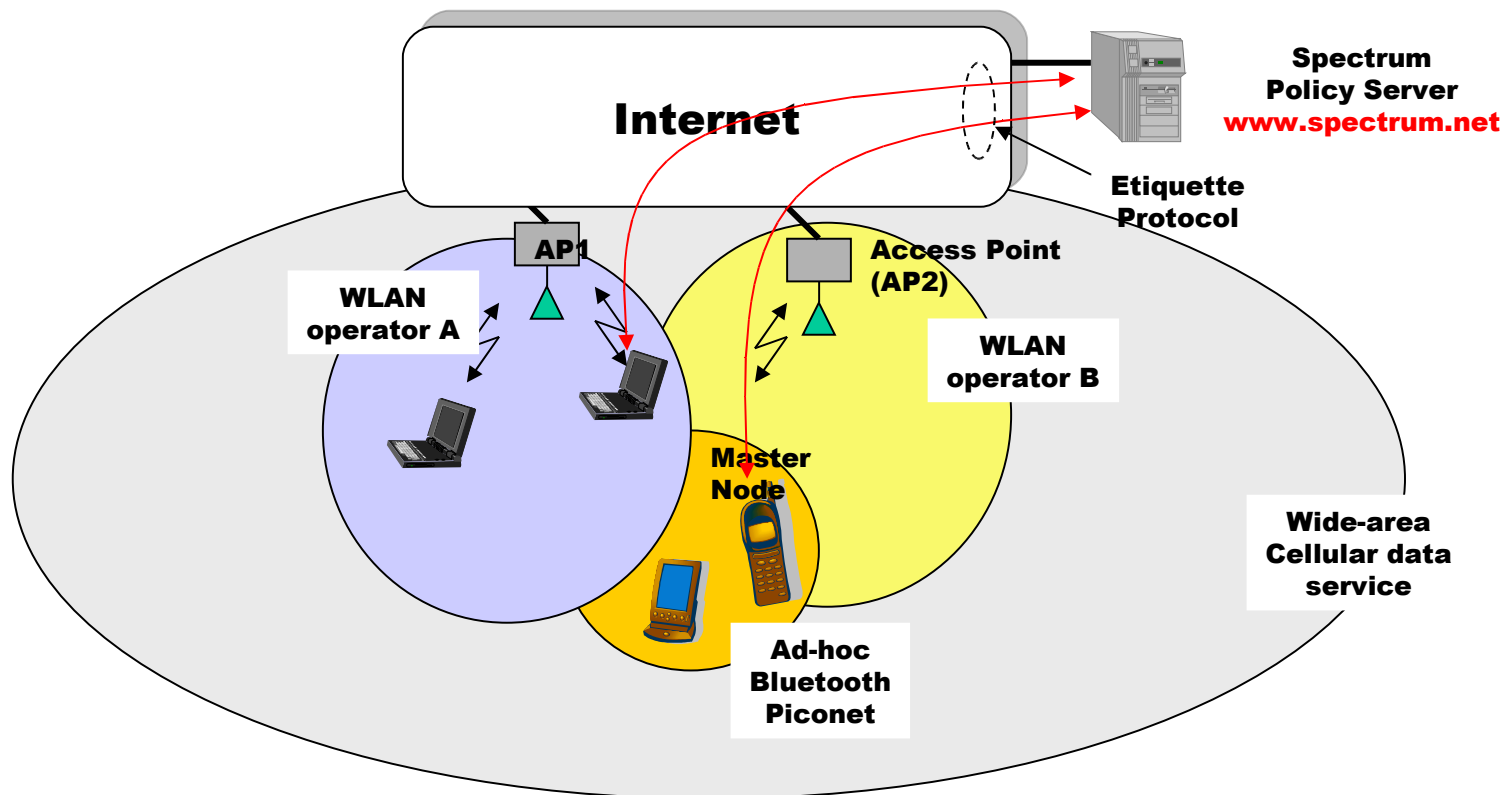
Future proof solution ?

- What happens when all are either scavenging for spectrum or "hiding in the noise" ?

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# Spectrum policy servers

## "Traditional spectrum management on steroids"



Source: Wade Trapp, "Cognitive Radio Research in the U.S.: Overview, Challenges and Directions" WINLAB, Rutgers University, June 2007

# Software Defined Radios ?

- Do we need Software Defined Radios ?
  - How many waveforms are needed ?
  - Backwards compatibility – but future proof?
  - Analogy – PC, Household appliance

- How flexible does it get ?

Washing machine: 1 Gflop/event

Computer game: 20 Mflops/event

Router (100 Mbit/s): 25 Kflops/event (IP packet)

SDR (100 MHz BW): 5 flops/event

# Conclusions

- Shannons law
  - wide area broadband access will be expensive
- Heterogeneous wireless networking
  - making the most out of combinations of existing and new (sparse) high speed access networks
- Spectrum is NOT a limiting factor
  - But spectrum access is
  - More spectrum – more affordable systems



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## Wireless@KTH

Wireless@KTH is a research center in "Mobile Systems for Mobile Services" that together with researchers at KTH and its industry partners is developing this key field for Sweden and the Stockholm area. We engage in interdisciplinary research projects in collaboration between academia and industry. An important role of the center is to bridge the gap between the design of services and systems and their commercial deployment.



The center is located in the "Wireless Valley" of Kista just north of Stockholm and was originally inaugurated in 2001 with KTH, Ericsson and TeliaSonera, Microsoft and Nokia as founding partners.

A large number of research groups at KTH, Stockholm University and the Stockholm School of Economics participate in research projects and other activities in cooperation with our industrial partners.

**News**

**2007-08-29**  
Open house and Future Wireless Seminar  
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**Friday seminar**

No seminars at the moment!