

Why and what you need to know about 6G in 2022

5G Advanced is establishing our early vision and the technical foundation for 6G in 2030 and beyond





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5G Advanced is establishing our early vision and the technical foundation for 6G in 2030 and beyond

Agenda

There is a rich roadmap of 5G technologies coming with the 5G Advanced evolution

6G will be the future wireless innovation platform for 2030 and beyond

6G will be more than a new radio, expanding AI, sensing in the connected intelligent edge

We are leading cutting-edge wireless research across six technology vectors on the path to 6G



Transportation

Manufacturing

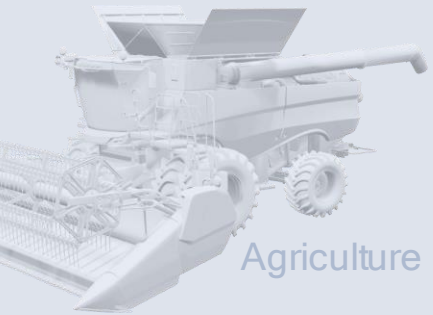
Retail

Industrial

Energy

Driving digital transformation across industries

5G will enable \$13.1 Trillion in global sales activities in 2035



Agriculture

Public safety



Smart cities



Healthcare

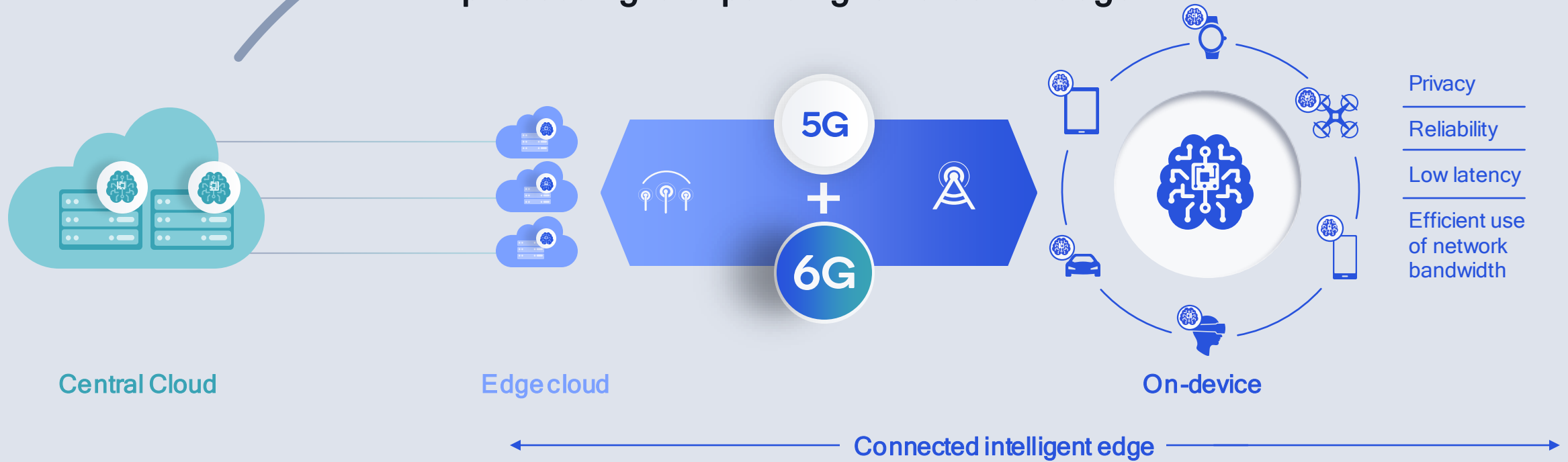


Entertainment



Source: The 5G Economy, an independent study from IHS Markit, commissioned by Qualcomm Technologies, Inc., November 2020

To scale efficiently,
AI processing is expanding towards the edge



Qualcomm is leading the realization of the connected intelligent edge

Convergence of:
Wireless connectivity
Efficient computing
Distributed AI

Unleashing massive amount of data to fuel our digital future

5G Advanced on the path to 6G



Leading 3GPP evolution of

5G

Rel 15

Established 5G NR technology foundation

5G

- eMBB – enhanced mobile broadband services
- 5G core network and enhanced E2E security
- Sub-6 GHz with massive MIMO
- Advanced channel coding
- 5G broadcast
- In-band eMTC/NB-IoT and 5G Core

- Scalable OFDM-based air interface
- Mobile mmWave
- Flexible framework
- LTE integration

Private Networks, SON

Rel 16

Expanding to new use cases and industries

~1.5-2 years between releases

- Mission-critical services with eURLLC (e.g., 5G NR IIoT)
- Positioning across use cases
- eMBB evolution - improved power, mobility, more

- 5G NR Cellular V2X
- Better coverage with IAB, uplink MIMO
- 5G NR in unlicensed spectrum
- IAB integrated access/ backhaul

Rel 17

Continued expansion and enhancements

- Enhanced DL/UL MIMO, multiple transmission points
- NR-Light Reduced Capability (RedCap) for low-complexity IoT
- More capable, flexible IAB
- Unlicensed spectrum across all use-cases
- New spectrum above 52.6 GHz

- Centimeter accuracy IIoT with mmWave
- Expand sidelink for V2X reliability, P2V, IoT relay
- Enhancements to 5G NR Industrial IoT
- Non-terrestrial network (i.e., satellites)
- Rel-15 deployment learning, eMBB enhancements, XR, others

Rel 18

New wave of 5G innovations in the decade-long 5G evolution

5G Advanced

- Further eMBB enhancements
- Full-duplex MIMO
- Extended Reality (XR)
- Smart repeaters for coverage expansion
- Automotive and NR V2X enhancements

- Non-terrestrial network enhancements
- 5G NR-Light expansion for IoT and more
- AI/ML data-driven designs
- Broadcast enhancements
- Sidelink in unlicensed spectrum

Rel 19

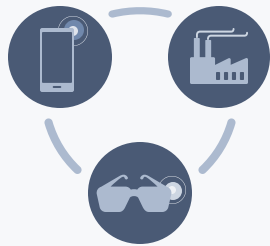
Rel 20

Rel 21+

Continued foundational technology evolution and expansion to new verticals

Driving a balanced 5G Advanced evolution across key technology areas

Mobile broadband evolution and further vertical expansion



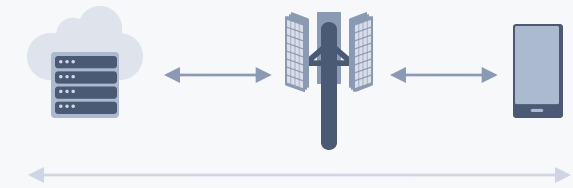
Deliver enhanced mobile broadband experiences and extend 5G's reach into new use cases

Immediate commercial needs and longer-term 5G vision



Drive new value in commercialization efforts and fully realize 5G's potential with future deployments

New and enhanced devices and network evolution



Focus on the end-to-end technology evolution of the 5G system to bring new levels of performance

Release 18 starts the 5G Advanced evolution and it prepares for new and enhanced features coming in subsequent releases



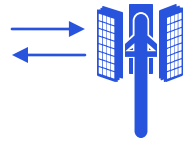
Release 18

3GPP Release 18

sets off the 5G
Advanced Evolution

[Learn more about 3GPP Release 18](#)

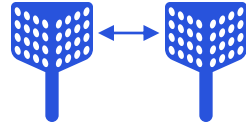
Strengthen the end-to-end 5G system foundation



Advanced
DL/UL MIMO



Enhanced
mobility



Mobile IAB,
smart repeater



Evolved
duplexing



AI/ML data-driven
designs



Green
networks

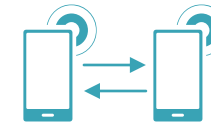
Proliferate 5G to virtually all devices and use cases



Boundless
extended reality



NR-Light (RedCap)
evolution



Expanded
sidelink



Expanded
positioning



Drones & expanded
satellites comm.



Multicast & other
enhancements



CONTINUED TECHNOLOGY EVOLUTION



Key market trends and technology drivers

leading the way to 6G



Core technology
advancements



Environmental and
societal sustainability



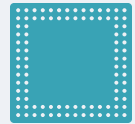
Enhanced and
new experiences



CONTINUED TECHNOLOGY EVOLUTION





Key market trends and technology drivers leading the way to 6G




Core technology advancements


 Advanced RF


 Compute topology


 Machine learning and AI

 Silicon / material

 Extreme disaggregation

 Multimedia / display

 Perception / human interface

 Power management

 Others...



CONTINUED TECHNOLOGY EVOLUTION



Key market trends and technology drivers leading the way to 6G



Environmental and societal sustainability



Wireless ecosystem reach to fuel sustained global economic growth



System design to consciously minimize environmental impact



More accessible networks, devices, services to promote digital equality



CONTINUED TECHNOLOGY EVOLUTION



Key market trends and technology drivers leading the way to 6G



Enhanced and new experiences



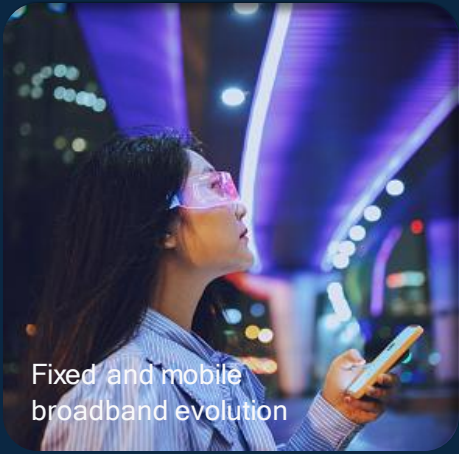
Fixed and mobile broadband to further evolve bringing next-generation experiences



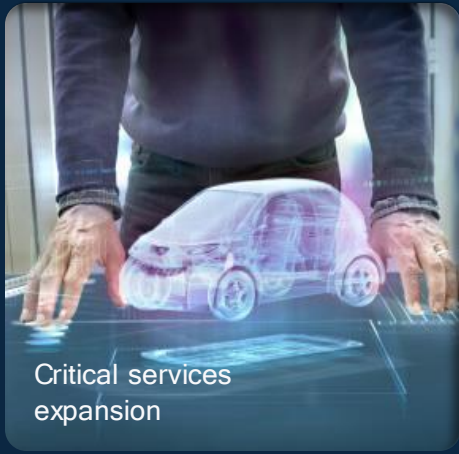
Digital twins to more accurately model the physical world continuing to derive new values



Metaverse to further augment the physical world creating next-level immersivity



Fixed and mobile broadband evolution



Critical services expansion



Collaborative robots, real-time command and control



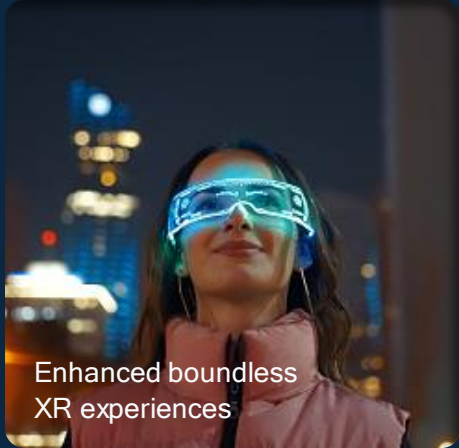
Hologram telepresence



Ultra-wide area to micro connectivity



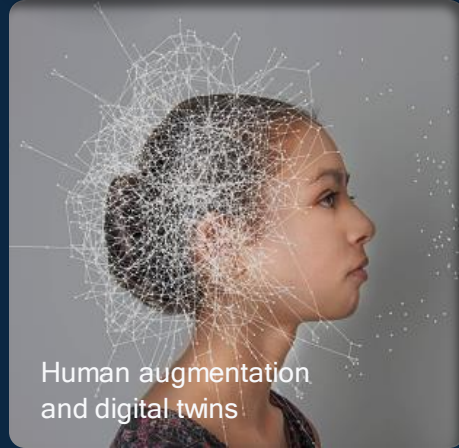
Smarter verticals



Enhanced boundless XR experiences



Wireless sensor fusion



Human augmentation and digital twins

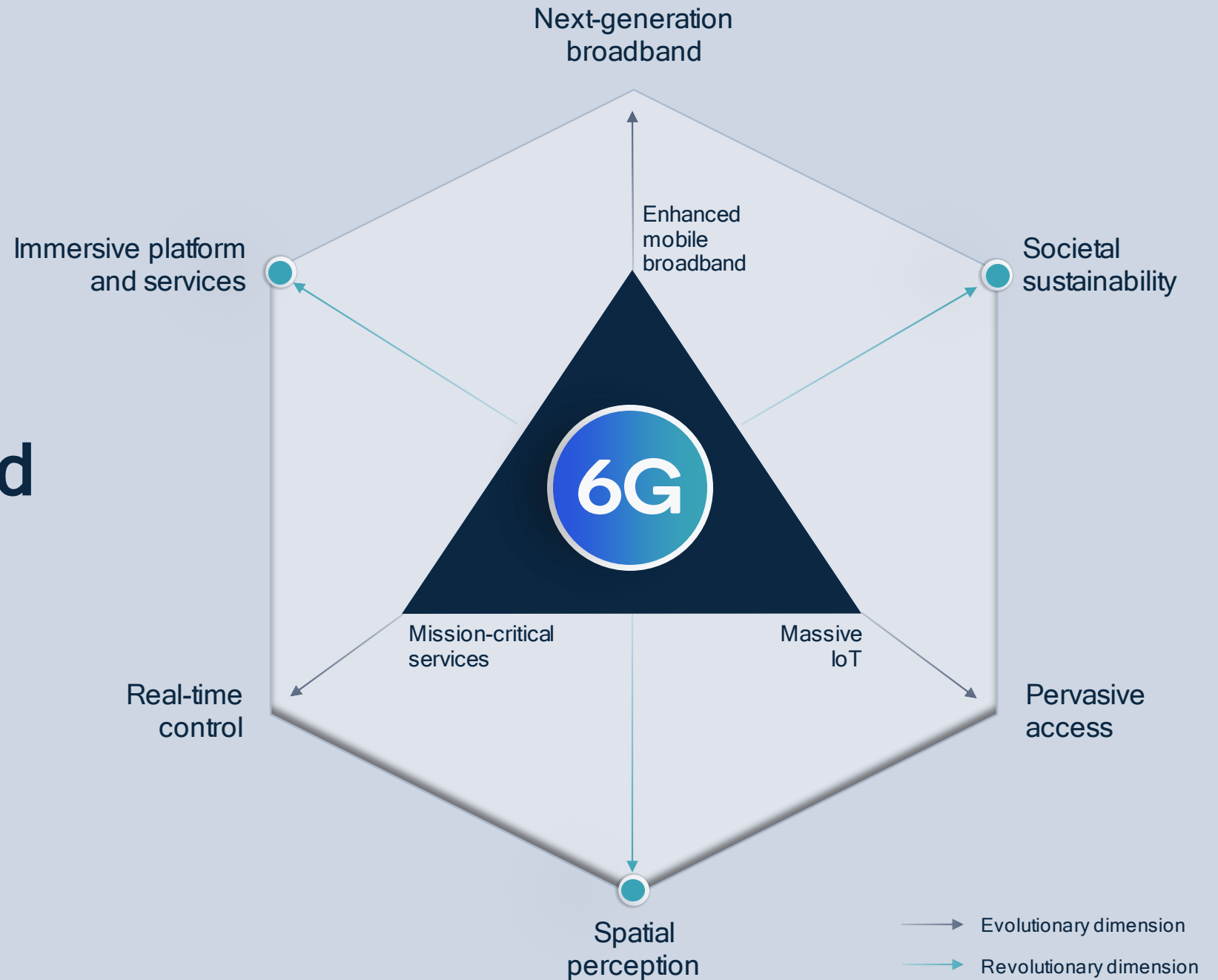


Unknown future use cases

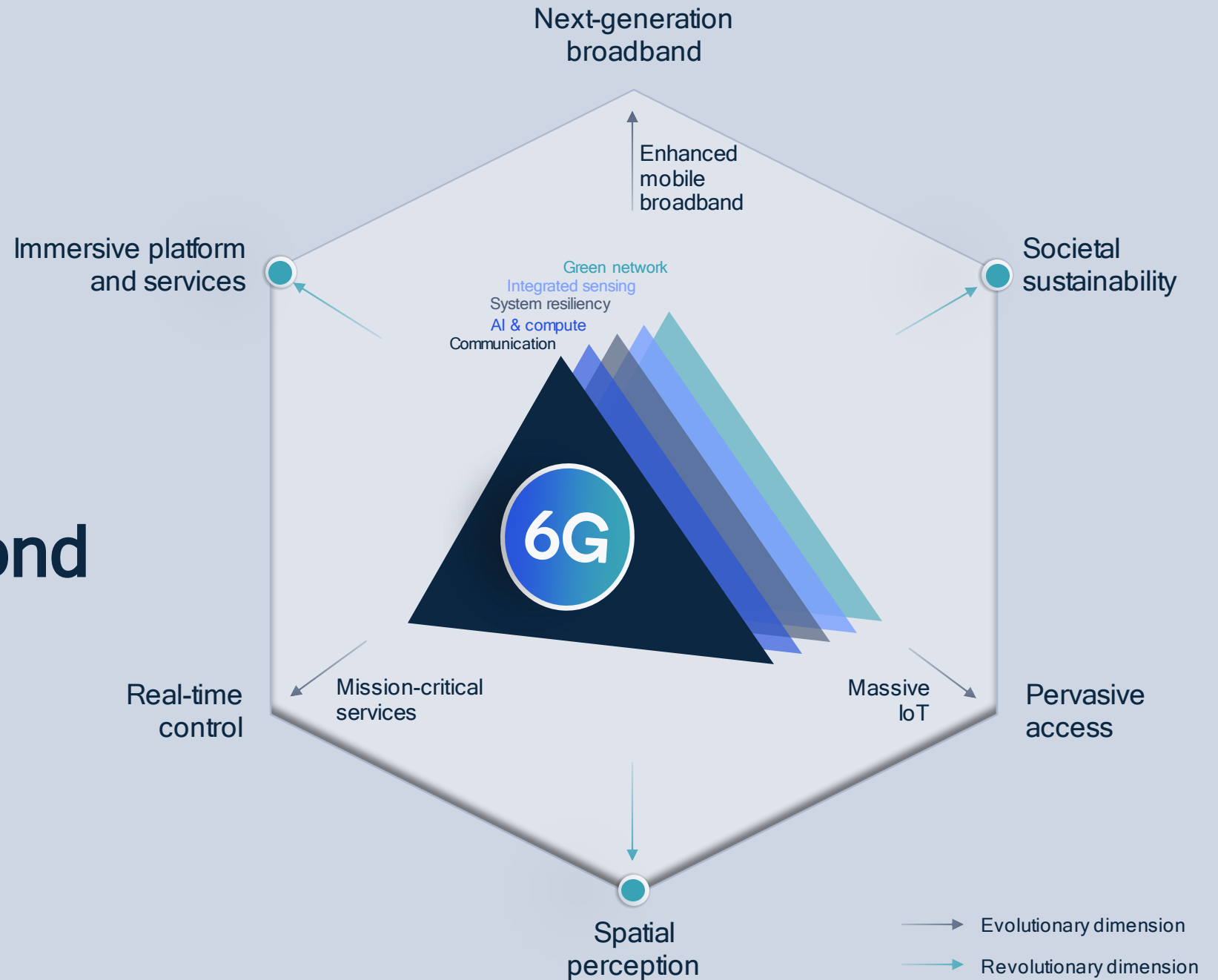


Propelling next-level experiences and innovative use cases in the new era of the connected intelligent edge for 2030 and beyond

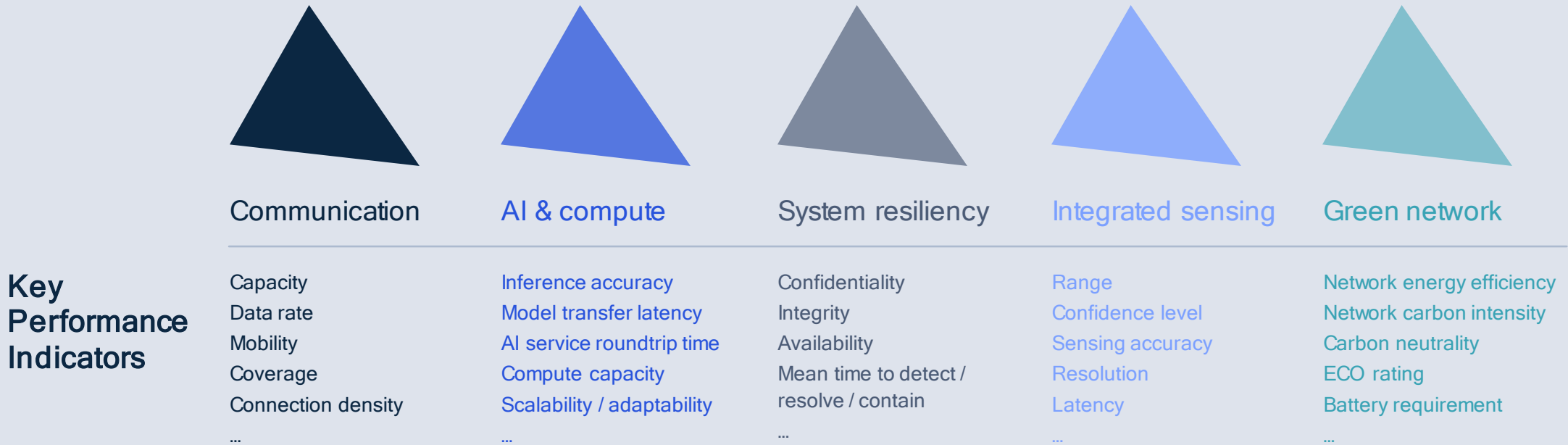
A smarter wireless platform to
**support enhanced
services and
new use cases**



A smarter wireless platform with
new capabilities
that expand beyond
communication



System design targets for expanded 6G capabilities



6G will be designed to meet enhanced traditional communication requirements as well as KPIs for new capabilities

Designing 6G to meet a

diverse set of system requirements

Further enhancing foundational wireless performance vectors (e.g., capacity, data rate, latency)

Introducing new dimensions (e.g., user experience, positioning capability, ease of onboarding)



Key longer-term research vectors

enabling the path towards 6G



AI-native E2E communications

Data-driven communication and network design, with joint training, model sharing and distributed inference across networks and devices



Scalable network architecture

Disaggregation and virtualization at the connected intelligent edge, use of advanced topologies to address growing demand



Expanding into new spectrum bands

Expanding to THz, wide-area expansion to higher bands, new spectrum sharing paradigm, dynamic coordination with environmental awareness



Air interface innovations

Evolution of duplexing schemes, Giga-MIMO, mmWave evolution, reconfigurable intelligent surfaces, non-terrestrial communications, waveform/coding for MHz to THz, system energy efficiency



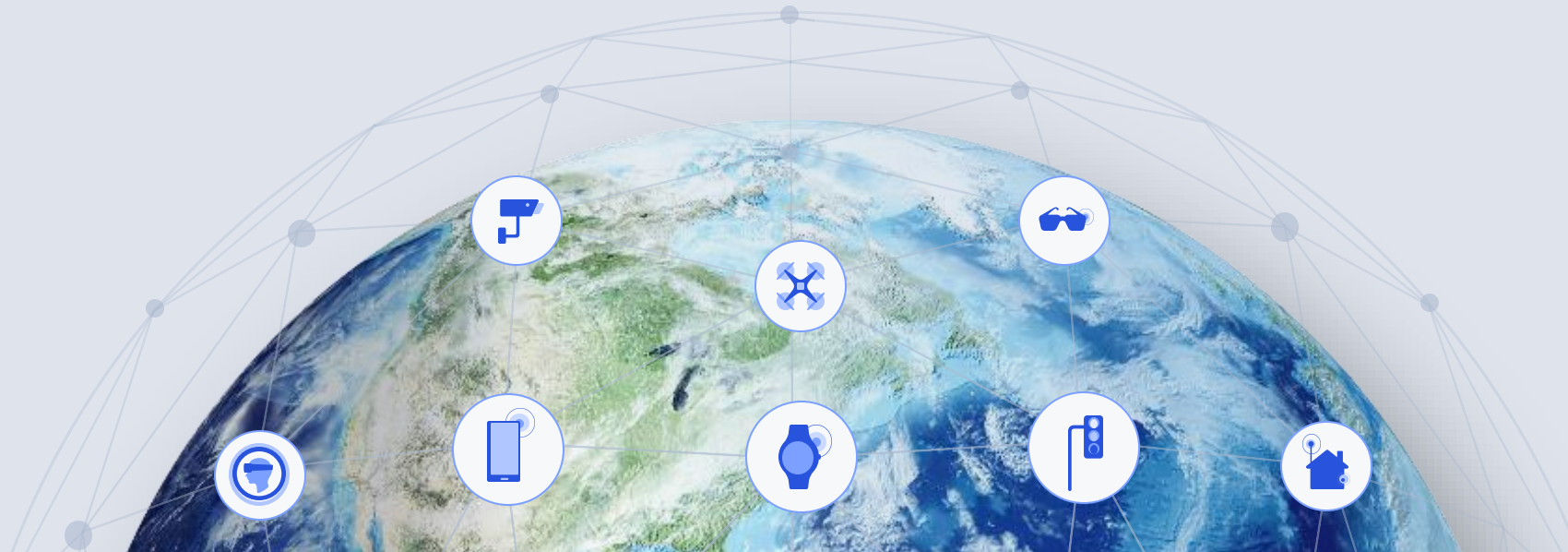
Merging of worlds

Physical, digital, virtual, immersive interactions taking human augmentation to next level via ubiquitous, low-power joint communication and sensing



Communications resiliency

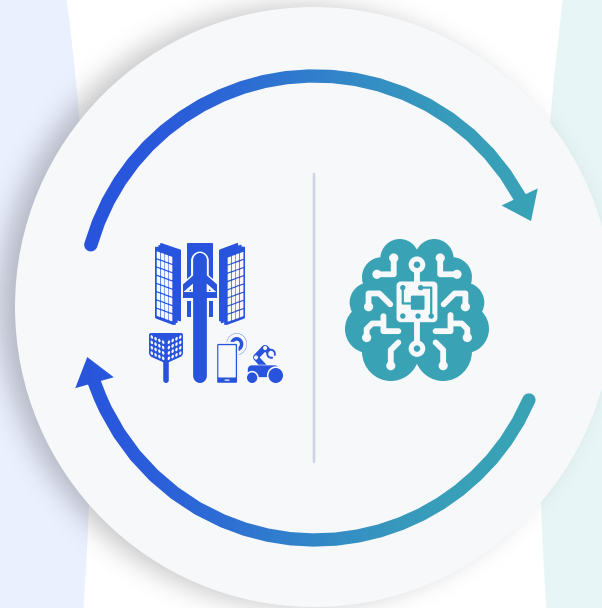
Multifaceted trust and configurable security, post quantum security, robust networks tolerant to failures and attacks



Advancement in AI is making

Wireless better

- Elevated level of performance
- More efficient resource utilization
- Energy reduction for longer battery life
- Personalized security and privacy
- Continuous enhancements over time
- New and enhanced system capabilities



Proliferation of cellular is making

AI better

- Responsive user experiences and services
- Lifelong learning
- Flexibility for distributed functionality across devices
- On-device intelligence assisted by cloud
- Scale intelligence through distributed learning
- Massive data aggregation for improved AI models

5G and AI are working together to accelerate innovations

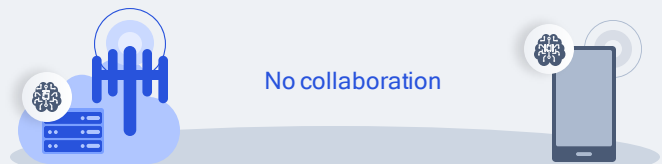
Evolving towards native wireless AI/ML

Multiple wireless AI/ML training and inference scenarios



Overlay AI/ML

Independently at the device or network



Network ML

On-device ML

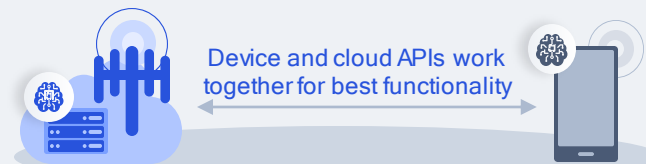
ML operates independently at the device and network as an optimization of existing functions

Proprietary ML procedures including model development and management

Proprietary and standardized data collection used as input to training

Cross-node AI/ML

Coordinated between device and network



ML operates in a coordinated manner between the device and network

Proprietary and standardized ML procedures including model development and management

Further data collection used as input to training as well as monitoring

Native AI/ML

At all device and network layers



ML operates autonomously between the device and network across all protocols and layers

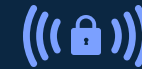
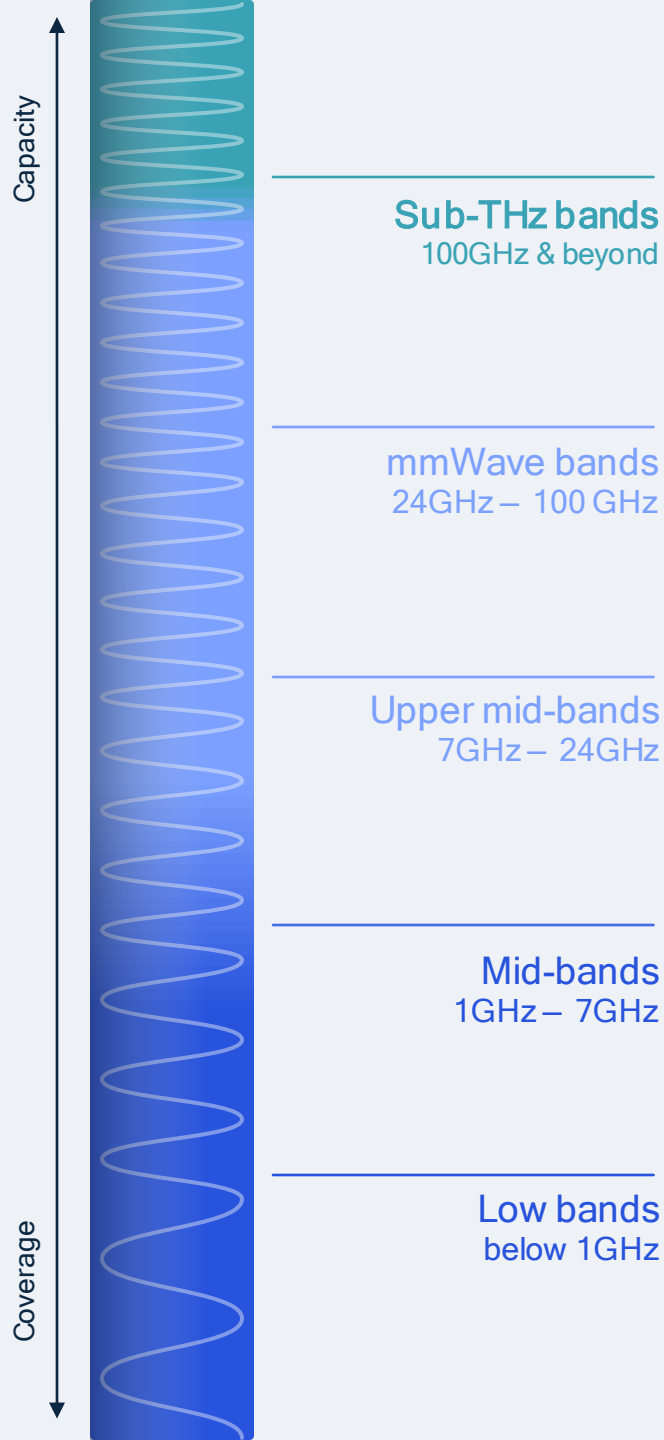
Integrated ML procedures across to train performance and adapt to different environments

Data fusion for integrated dynamic ML lifecycle management



6G system targets all spectrum types and bands

Critical for the success of next-generation wireless systems



Licensed spectrum

Exclusive use of spectrum that remains the industry's top priority



Unlicensed spectrum

Shared use of more available spectrum



Shared spectrum

Evolving spectrum sharing that allow fair and more efficient sharing

New upper mid-band brings order of magnitude more wide-area capacity

Larger contiguous bandwidths can bring efficiencies, fuel growing data demand, and enable new applications



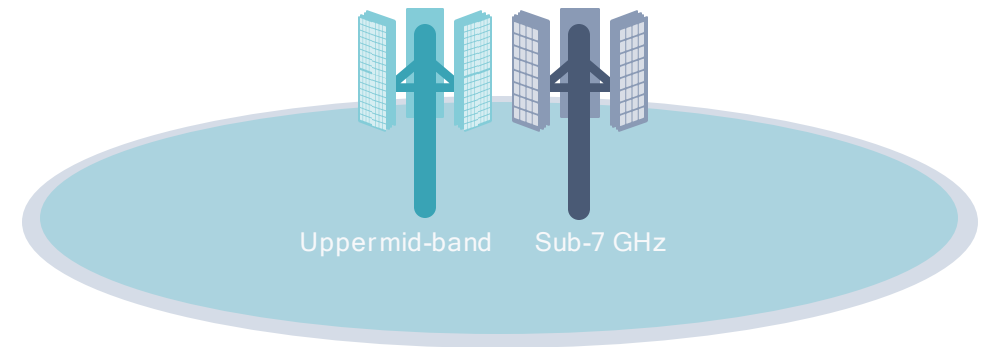
Delivering new capacity for wide-area broadband (e.g., smartphones, smart cities, automotive, verticals)



Fueling scalable boundless XR user support in wide area through wider bandwidth availability



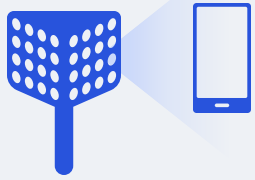
Supporting high-resolution RF sensing for new use cases (e.g., environmental monitoring, activity detection)



Opportunity to co-site with existing sub-7 GHz deployments for comparable coverage in higher band

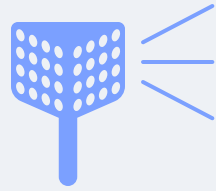
Upper Mid-Band
7 to 24 GHz

Best of wide-area coverage of sub-7 GHz
and wide-band capacity of mmWave



Coverage

Innovations to overcome significant path loss in mmWave bands



Beam management

Innovations to beam pairing, tracking and recovery



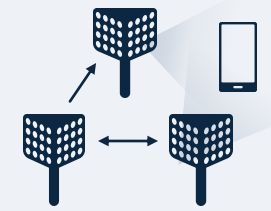
Device size / power

Innovations to optimize mmWave design for smartphone form factor



Robustness

Innovations to overcome blockage from hand, body, walls, foliage, etc.



Topology enhancement

Innovations to efficiently scale and densify the network



CONTINUED EXPANSION AND ENHANCEMENT OF

mobile mmWave technologies

Building on the solid foundation of 5G NR

Making sub-Terahertz spectrum viable for communications and beyond

Building on our mmWave experience to address key system challenges at higher band spectrum

Use case feasibility

Evaluating diverse use case, form factor requirements and how sub-THz can deliver an effective solution

System design

Building early prototypes to overcome implementation challenges (i.e., device formfactor, power consumption, etc.)

Propagation loss

Advancing intelligent beamforming to overcome indoor path loss, penetration loss, foliage loss, and others

Sub-THz can unlock new and enhanced use cases



Wireless fronthaul



Wireless data center



Wireless fiber to the home



Ultra-precise positioning



RF sensing



Unlocking new spectrum that may require non-exclusive licensing and sharing with primary users



Designing for efficient and coordinated spectrum sensing / sharing that improves overall system performance



Leveraging O-RAN architecture to allow operators to cost-efficiently offer service differentiations (e.g., through RU sharing)



Utilizing adaptive AI/ML to address high-mobility scenario and public / private networks coexistence in the same band

Evolution to licensed spectrum sharing for improved efficiency, flexibility, and user experience

Building on 4G/5G spectrum innovations to optimize 6G experiences

6G XR requirements fueled by digital twins and spatial compute

Digital twins digitize the complex physical world in the metaverse



Spatial compute enables immersive interaction with 3D digital content



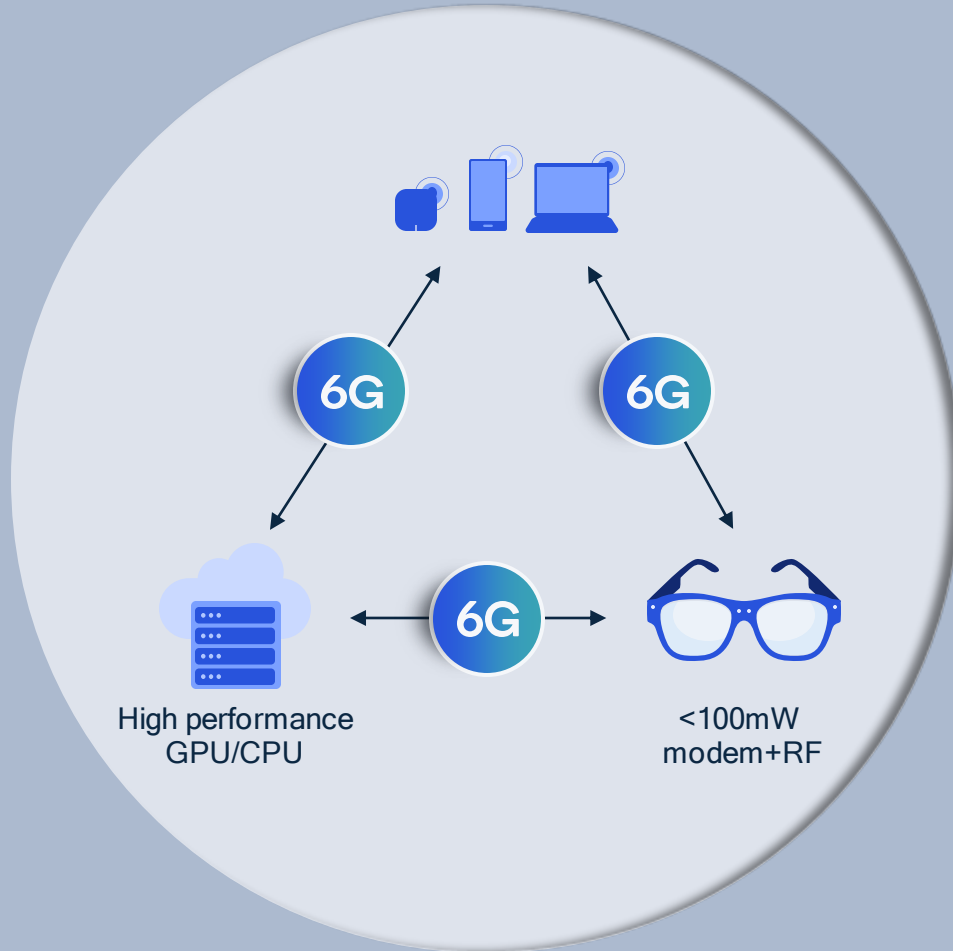
100x network
capacity

0.1-10 Gbps
per user

Use multiple
frequency bands

(sub-THz, mmW, sub 7GHz, 7-24GHz,
unlicensed, shared spectrum)









6G protocols can natively support distributed compute



Dynamically distributing workloads

Delivering low power and low latencies

Incorporating e2e QoS and session handling

-  6DoF/SLAM
-  Hand Tracking
-  Facial Expression
-  Eye Tracking
-  3D Graphics Rendering
-  Scene Understanding
-  Objected Rec and Tracking
-  Camera Processing

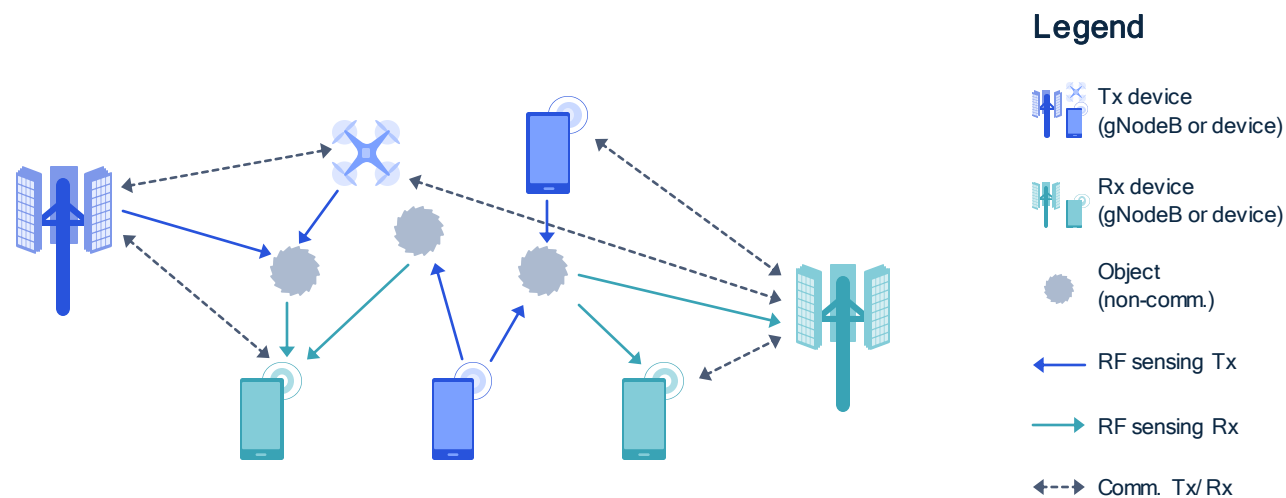
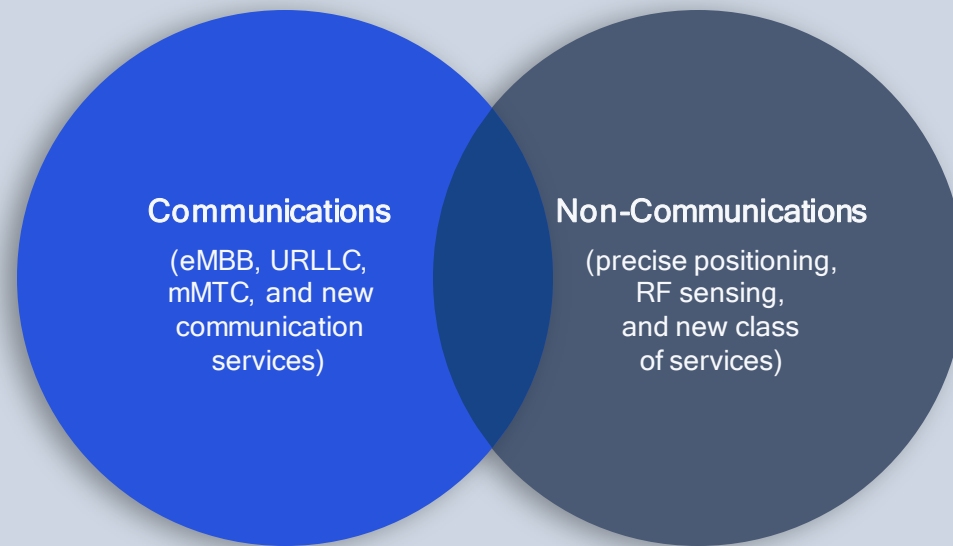
INTEGRATED TECHNOLOGY PLATFORM THAT CAN

Enable joint communications, positioning, RF sensing, and more

Utilizing existing waveform and other fundamental physical layer designs in existing spectrum (sub-7, mmWave) and new higher-band spectrum (e.g., upper mid-band, THz)

Integrating environmental detection capabilities (e.g., positioning, RF sensing) to enhance quality of service and support emerging applications

Providing cooperative sensing capability across networks (e.g., TRP¹) and devices, utilizing overall network processing with diverse topology



6G technology platform will require a new air interface design

An innovation opportunity to achieve higher capacity, system throughput and efficiency

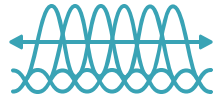


Channel Coding

Advanced channel coding targeting high-throughput, low-power, cost efficient implementation, approaching the theoretical bound on different block length and SNR regimes

Modulation

Enhanced modulation schemes to achieve more efficient use of spectrum and resources, while enabling higher data rates and adapting to different MIMO transmission schemes



Waveform

New waveforms and advanced signal processing to deliver higher spectral and power efficiency across a variety of spectrum bands within 6G unified air interface (UAI)

Multiple Access

Continued evolution of scheduled multiple access in conjunction with advanced MIMO, duplexing technologies to support extremely high cell capacity. Development of contention based random access to facilitate scaling up massive large number of devices in cellular system

Foundational PHY designs are crucial for enabling 6G new features:

Advanced RF and baseband joint design

Supporting wider bandwidth, faster Tx/Rx switching, higher PA efficiency, massive spectrum aggregation across new bands and existing bands

Efficient modem system implementation

Modem-RF implementation friendly PHY to facilitate data rate envelope scaling while maintaining superior power efficiency

Advanced air interface features

Coevolution of waveform and multiple access with next-gen MIMO, flexible/full duplex

Extreme energy-efficient devices

Diverse devices and use cases, ranging from extreme data rate to passive IoT

Seamless multi-RAT connectivity and spectrum sharing

Flexibility and efficient multi-RAT (5G/6G) spectrum access and resource sharing over multiple users and multi-RAT connectivity on the same device

Enabling immersive experience

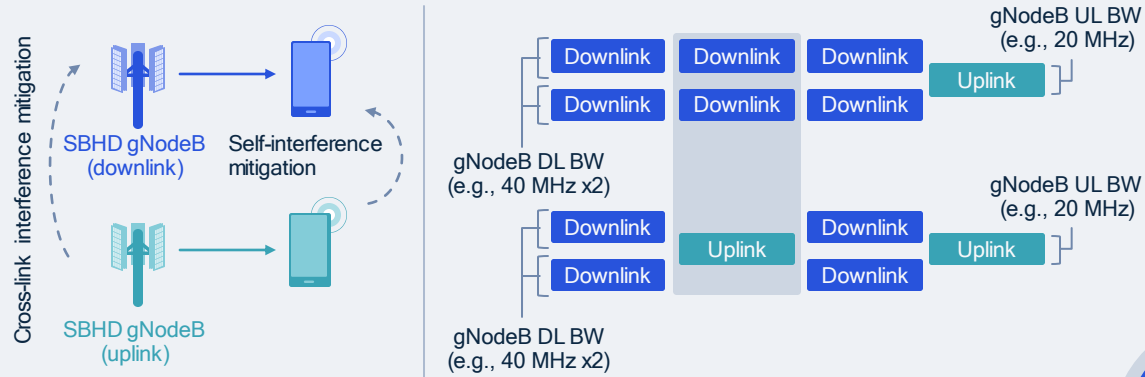
Enabling high capacity XR to facilitate immersive metaverse experiences using 6G air interface and new network topology technologies

Driving towards a full duplex wireless system

Lower latency, better coverage, expanded capacity, flexible spectrum deployment and service multiplexing

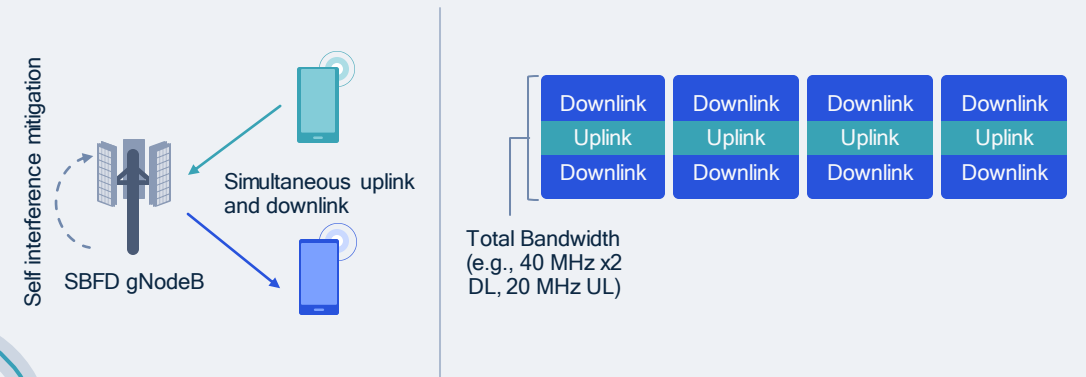
Subband half duplex (SBHD)

Frequency aligned to avoid inter-site interference; Time separation to avoid self-interference; Implemented in SD test network (MWC'21)



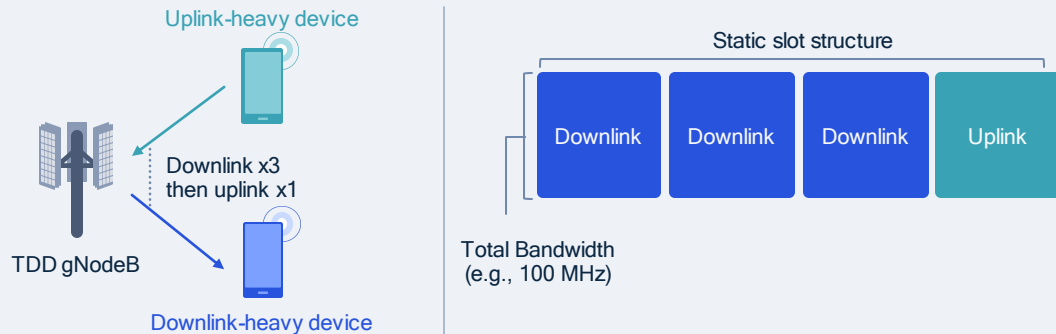
Subband full duplex (SBFD)

Frequency aligned to avoid inter-site interference; Frequency separation + interference cancellation to avoid self-interference; Implemented in SD test network (MWC'22)



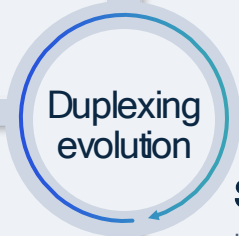
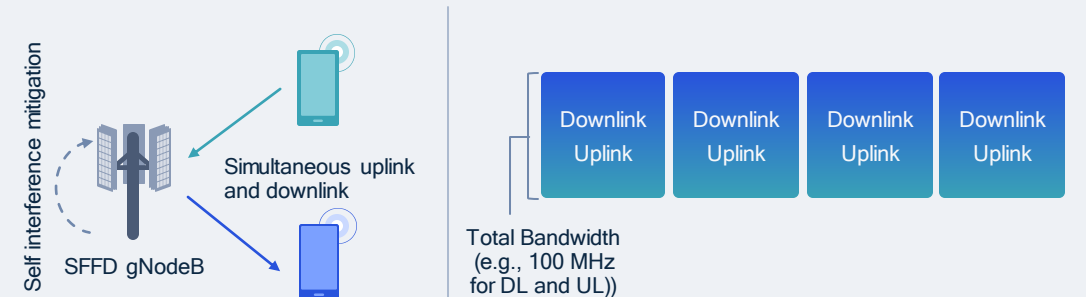
Static TDD

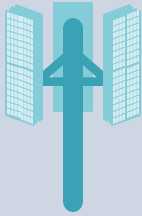
Time aligned to avoid inter-site interference; Time separation to avoid self-interference; Existing 5G systems (i.e., Rel-15) adopt static TDD (and FDD) duplexing



Single frequency full duplex (SFFD)

Interference cancellation to avoid self-interference; Targeting future simulations, prototyping, and standardization in 6G and beyond



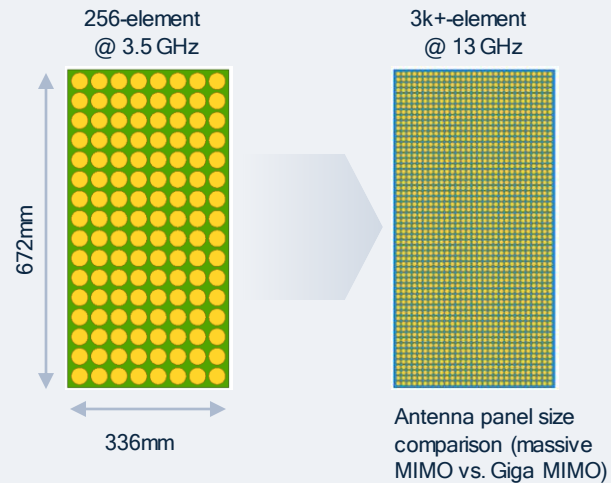


Giga-MIMO expands network coverage to upper mid-band

Giga MIMO with wide bandwidth and large number of antenna elements (i.e., >2k)

More antenna elements with same aperture, 3-4x wavelength reduction vs. sub-7 GHz

Building on 5G sub-7 GHz and mmWave technologies and approaches



For supporting wide-area use cases in X-band (8– 12 GHz) and Ku-band (12– 18 GHz)

Global spectrum discussions underway

Experimental licenses e.g., 8.5-9 GHz, 12.75-13.25 GHz

Regional and ITU discussions ongoing for longer term refarming



256-element @ 3.5 GHz



2048-element @ 10 GHz

Network coverage testing near Qualcomm campus in San Diego, CA

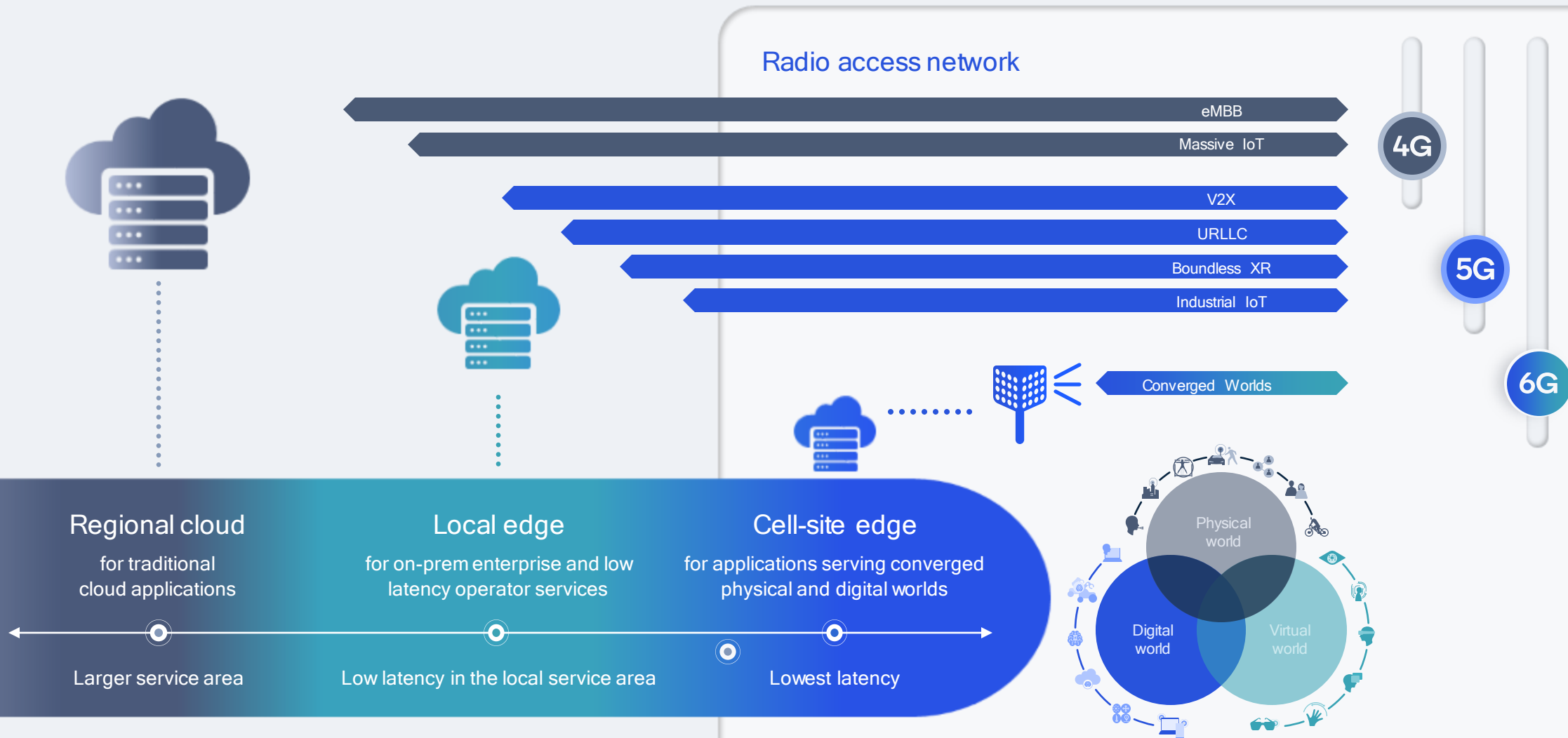
Best of wide-band mmWave and wide-area sub-7 GHz

GHz bandwidth – 10x more capacity than existing massive MIMO systems

Comparable wide-area coverage to massive MIMO in sub-7 GHz

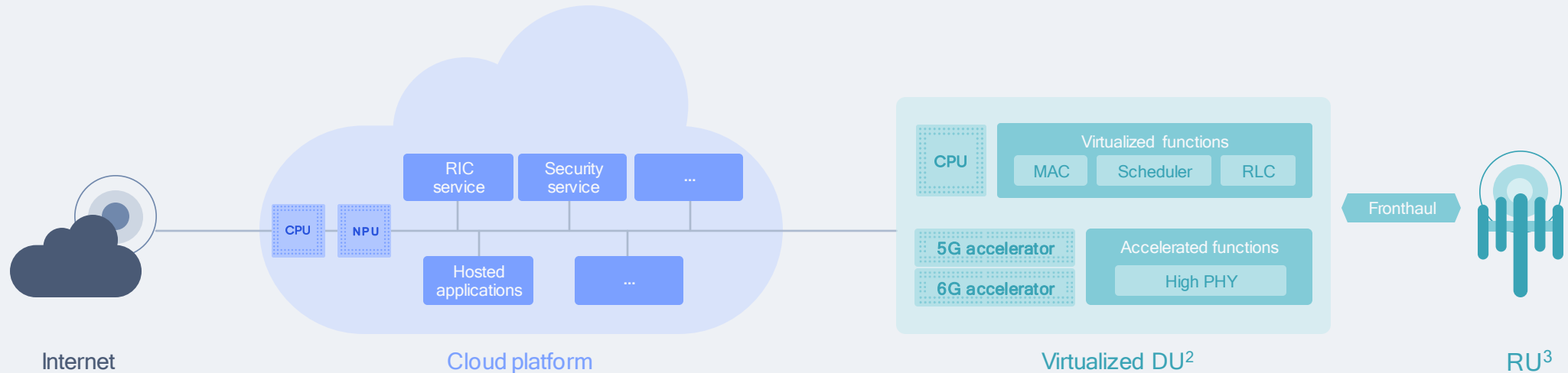
Higher positioning, radar, and RF sensing resolutions

Serving more diverse requirements with an evolving topology



Evolving network architecture towards 6G

Driven by disaggregation and cloudification of tiered services



Cloud-based core network

Core network hosted in public and/or private clouds
Flattening of architecture by moving 5G CU¹ functions to Core in 6G
Applications and Core on same platform create opportunity for differentiated E2E performance

RAN Intelligent Controller (RIC)

Intelligent optimization via RIC applications from third-parties
Opportunity for network and device side intelligence framework synergy

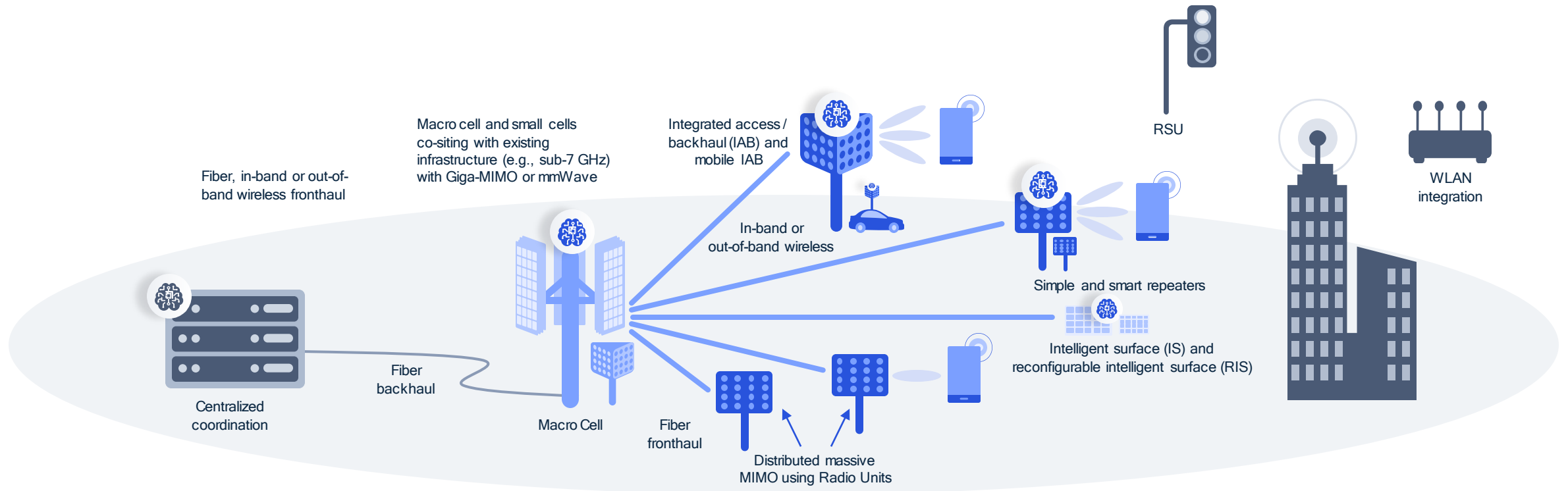
Virtualized DU and open fronthaul

Virtualized DU with PHY processing in accelerators
Widespread adoption of standards-based fronthaul for interoperable RU
Rapid upgrade cycles on network create opportunity for more upgradable and modular device software

Upgrade for legacy bands

Leverage flexible 5G design to support efficient DSS with 6G
Potential reuse of legacy RU if 6G supports 5G symbol numerology
Easy upgrade of virtualized DU by adding 6G accelerator cards

6G will drive diverse deployment topologies and technologies



A scalable and distributed network architecture can meet diverse coverage, capacity, and other performance requirements

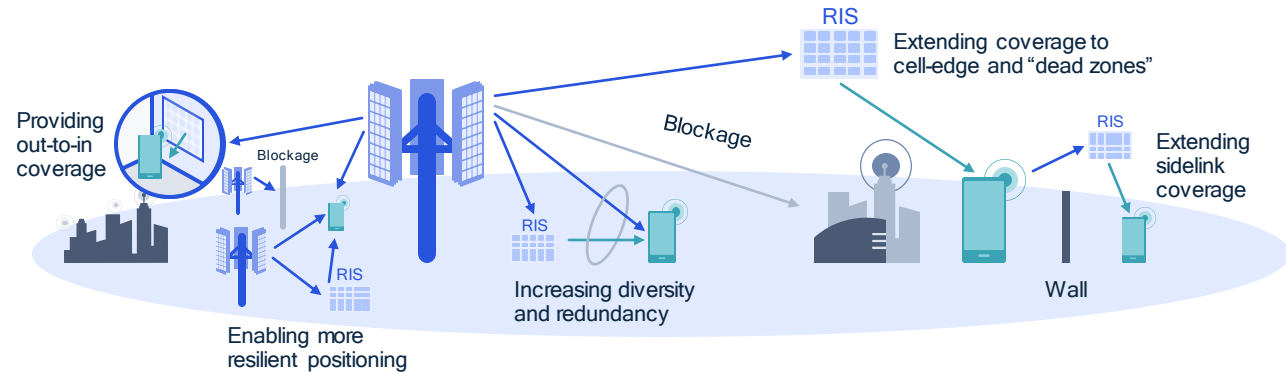
Passive MIMO for coverage extension and improved energy efficiency

Also known as RIS – Reconfigurable Intelligent Surfaces that can support various deployments and use cases

Providing dynamic control of reflective beam directions with PA¹-less operations

Extending coverage for users in challenging locations (e.g., cell-edge, indoors, and with blockage)

Achieving better network energy efficiency



1 Power amplifier

Expanding the deployment toolbox to efficiently provide broader network coverage

Macro cells

Micro cells

Remote radio heads

Small cells

RF repeaters

Smart repeaters

Integrated access/backhaul

Passive MIMO

Smart passive MIMO (IS & RIS)

Other infrastructure options...

Further evolving cellular for non-terrestrial communication

That complements terrestrial communication

5G Rel-15

Study Item focused on deployment scenarios and channel models

5G Rel-17

Work Item focused on supporting satellites and HAPS for eMBB and IoT¹ with enhancements to synchronization, scheduling, HARQ, mobility, and more

6G

Potential focus on delivering an integrated 3D heterogeneous network, where terrestrial infrastructure can be complemented by non-terrestrial ones

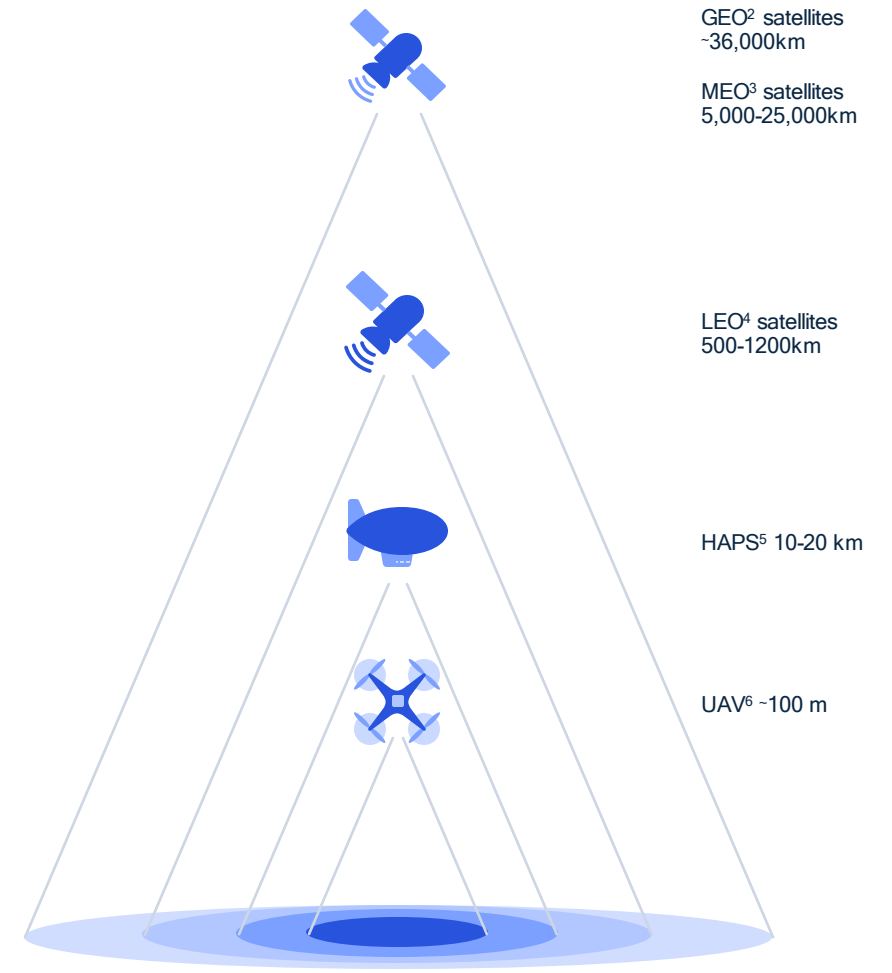
5G Rel-16

Study Item focused on solutions for adapting 5G NR to support NTN

5G Rel-18+

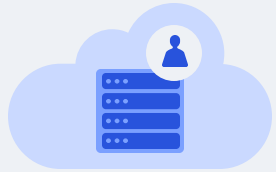
Expected to further enhance communications for UAV, HAPS, and satellites

1 eMTC and NB-IoT; 2 Geostationary; 3 Medium Earth Orbit; 4 Low Earth Orbit; 5 Unmanned Aerial Vehicles; 6 High Altitude Platform Station;



Our research focus in 6G security and privacy across all layers

Building on the proven, solid security foundation of 5G



Data security and privacy

- Data provenance (e.g., to defeat deep fake)
- AI/ML federated learning
- Secure multi-party computation
- Differential privacy
- Homomorphic encryption of secure off device data processing
- Zero knowledge proof for data/identity privacy



Secure communication

- PHY/MAC security
- Ultra secure communication
- Network hiding
- All encryption (including broadcast / scheduling info.)
- Jamming resilience
- Post quantum cryptography (resilient against quantum computers)
- Quantum security (key generation, key distribution)



Identity and device management

- Identity privacy
- Multifaceted trust
- User / device / subscription authentication
- Device onboarding and ownership structure/management
- Device / user attestation, multi-factor, continuous authentication
- Electronic ID ecosystem (e.g., secure, private, agile root of trust for identity, trusted D2D security bootstrapping)

Platform security

Blockchain

Web 3.0

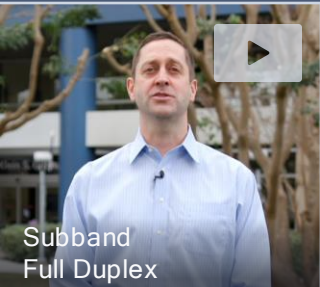
Confidential Computing



Driving the 5G evolution with our advanced R&D demonstrations



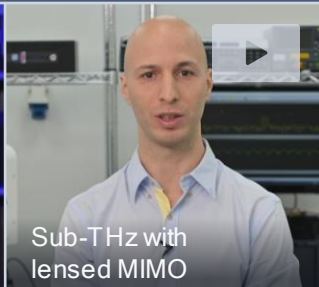
[Watch all on YouTube](#)



Subband Full Duplex



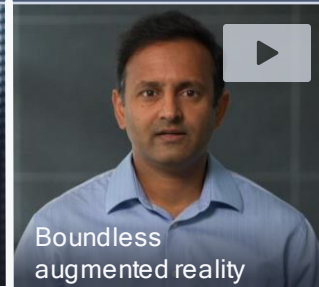
Upper mid-band with Giga-MIMO



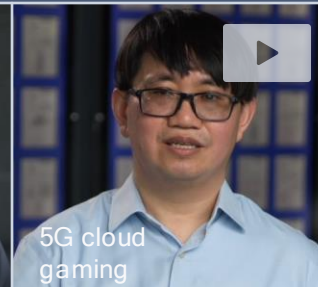
Sub-THz with lensed MIMO



Intelligent 5G mmWave deployment



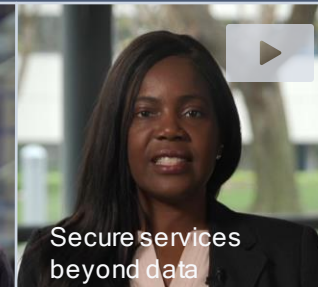
Boundless augmented reality



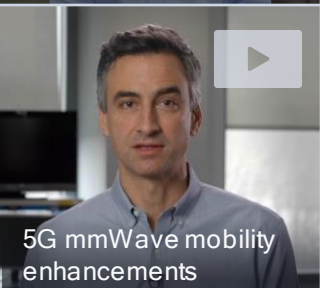
5G cloud gaming



mmWave cooperative sensing



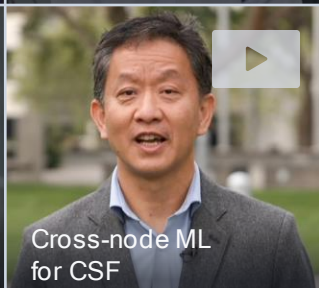
Secure services beyond data



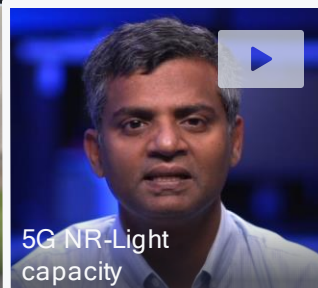
5G mmWave mobility enhancements



Advanced mmWave spectrum sharing



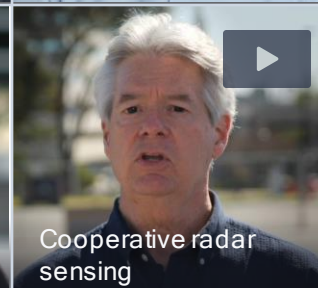
Cross-node ML for CSF



5G NR-Light capacity



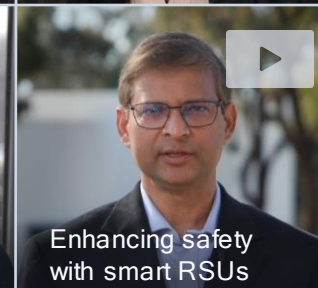
5G device mesh network for IoT



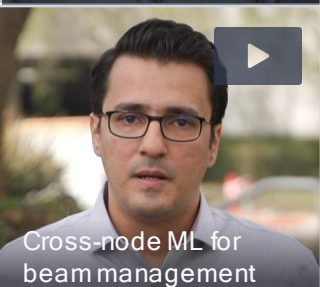
Cooperative radar sensing



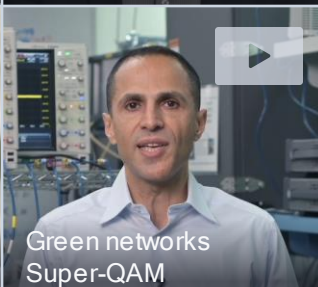
Sidelink positioning with single RSU



Enhancing safety with smart RSUs



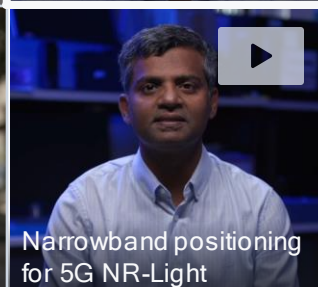
Cross-node ML for beam management



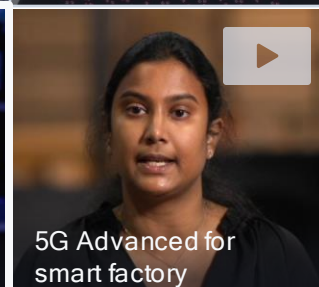
Green networks Super-QAM



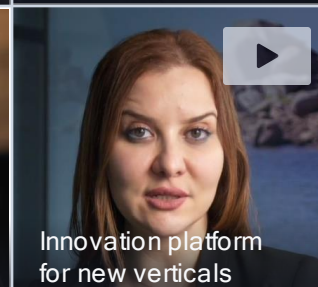
5G mmWave precise positioning



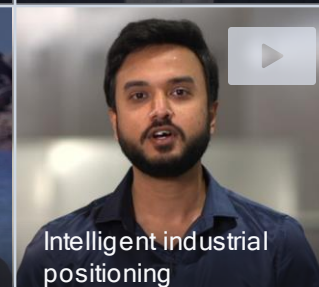
Narrowband positioning for 5G NR-Light



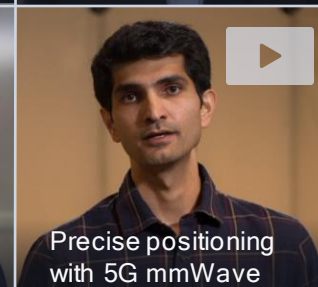
5G Advanced for smart factory



Innovation platform for new verticals



Intelligent industrial positioning



Precise positioning with 5G mmWave

Foundational Air Interface Innovations

Expansion to New Applications

Driving the 5G Advanced technology evolution into 6G

A key enabler of the connected intelligent edge

5G

Rel-15 eMBB focus → Rel-16 and 17 expanding to new industries



Rel-18, 19, 20 and beyond Continued 5G evolution and proliferation

Strong 5G momentum sets stage for global expansion

Foundational research, vision, requirements, etc.



Next technology leap for new capabilities and efficiencies

Rel-21 and beyond New innovation platform

Historically 10 years between generations

Technology foundation for the next generation

Thank you

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