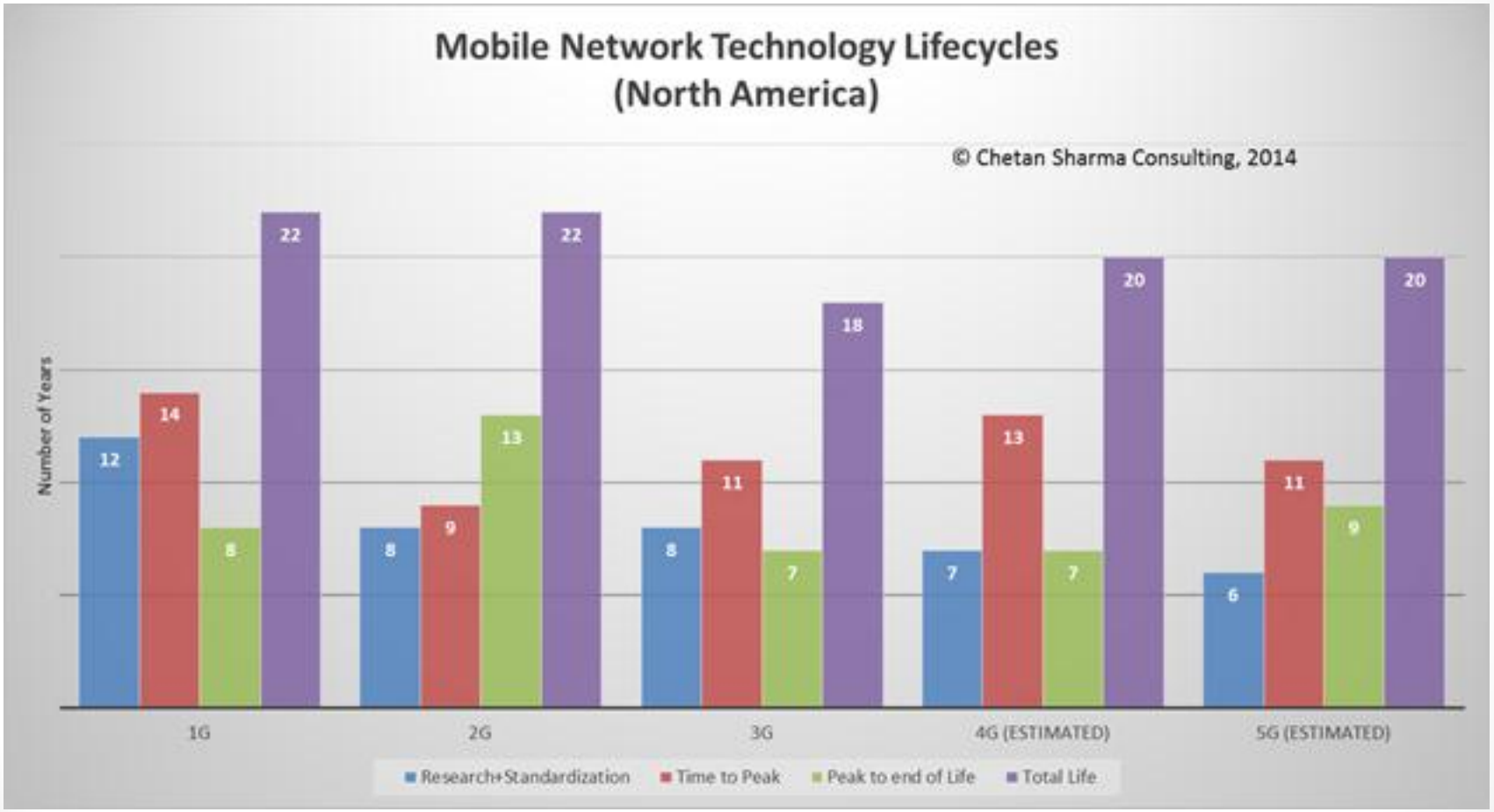
5G: What can we learn from the previous four generations?

Henning Schulzrinne
Columbia University

Design for 20 years



Generational surprises

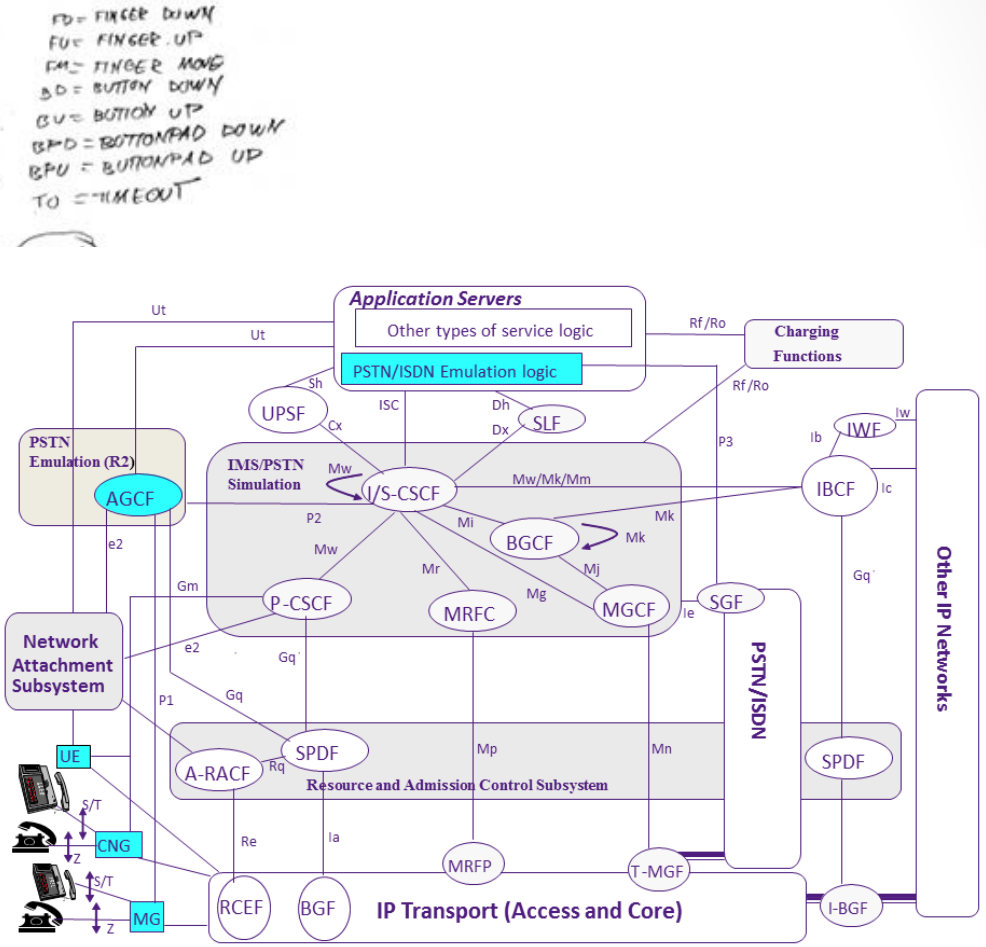
Generation	Expectation	Surprise
2G	better voice quality (“digital!”)	SMS
3G	WAP	web
4G	IMS	YouTube, WhatsApp
5G	IoT (low latency)	?

underestimated cost and fixed-equivalence as drivers

Lessons, in brief

Experience	Lessons
VoLTE, IMS	avoid complexity avoid entanglement plan intercarrier interfaces
Wi-Fi	don't trust the RAN/AP
disaggregation of functions	clear & simple interfaces don't assume trust between elements
app stores	keep it application-neutral
FTTH, backhaul cost	re-use backhaul where you can find it

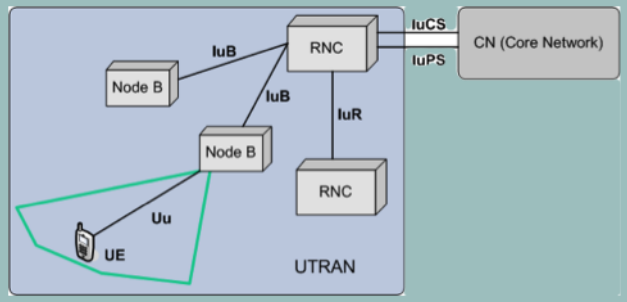
Complexity kills



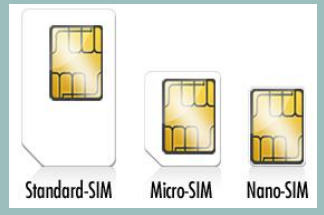
IMS

Networks 1G through 4Gish

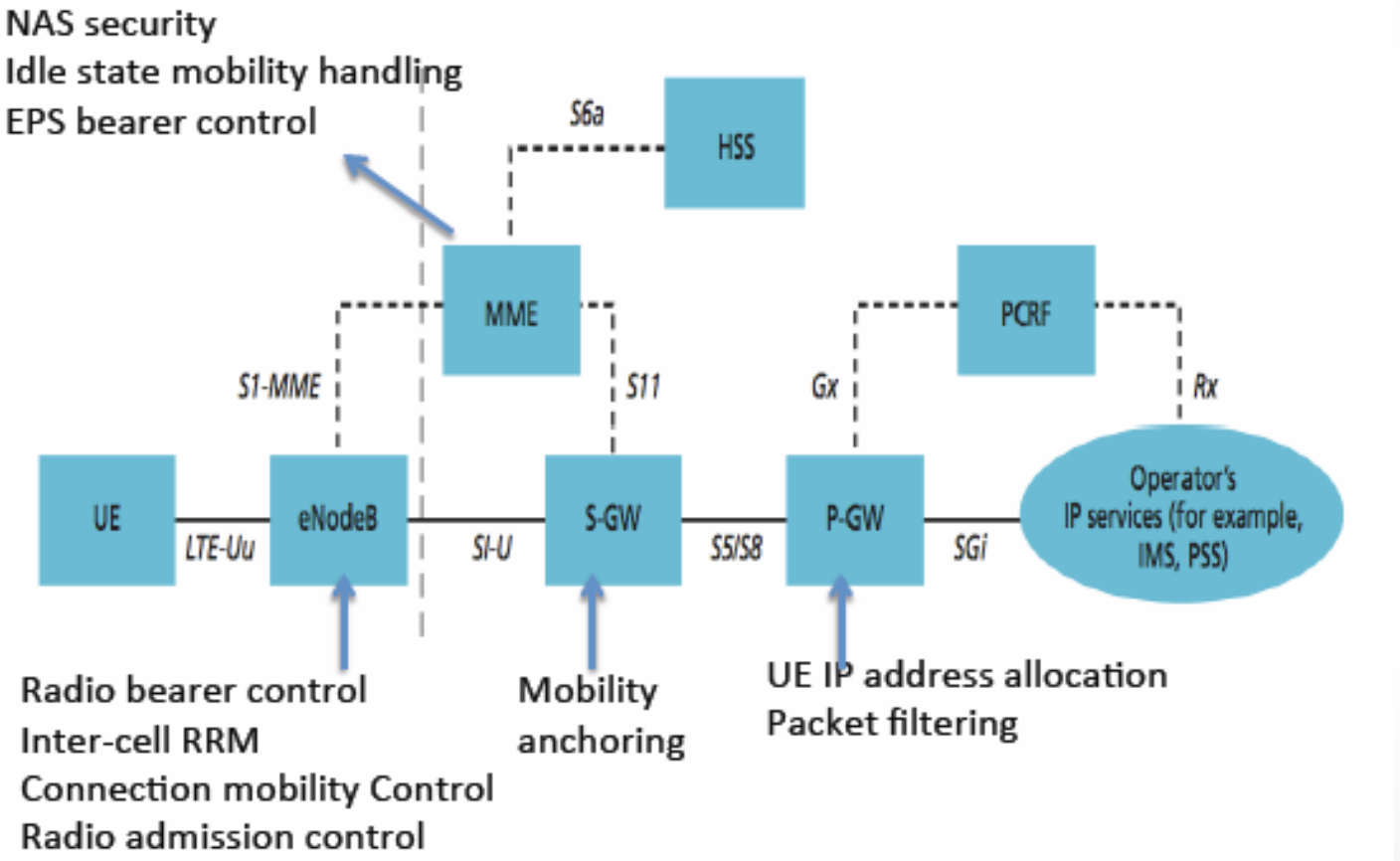
national carrier



one subscriber,
one phone,
one provider



LTE – one carrier, plus roaming



5G – what exactly is a carrier?

AMERICAN TOWER®
40k towers each (US)

CROWN CASTLE

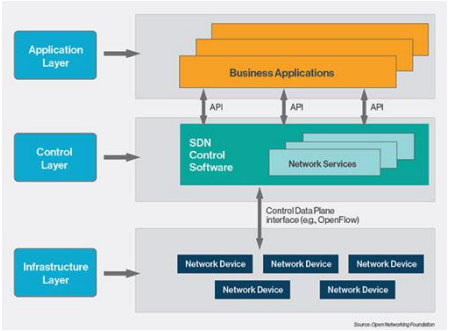
Spectrum DB

Google play

Level3
Cogent

comcast

LTE-U
802.11n
LTE



FiberLight

lightower

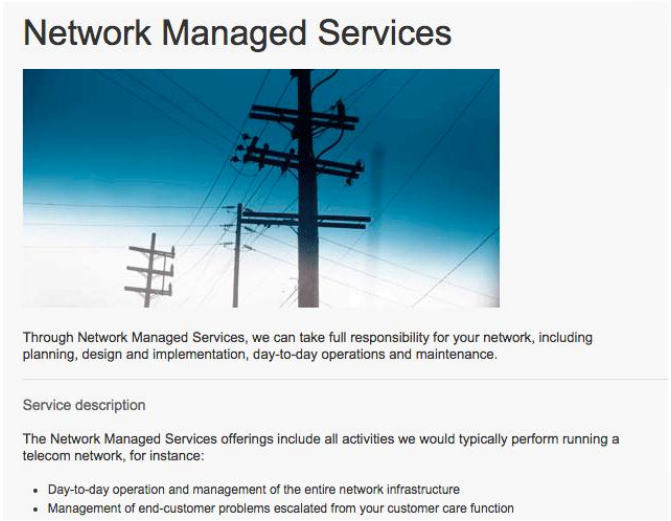
zayo®

ERICSSON

5G: Carriers as consumer brand

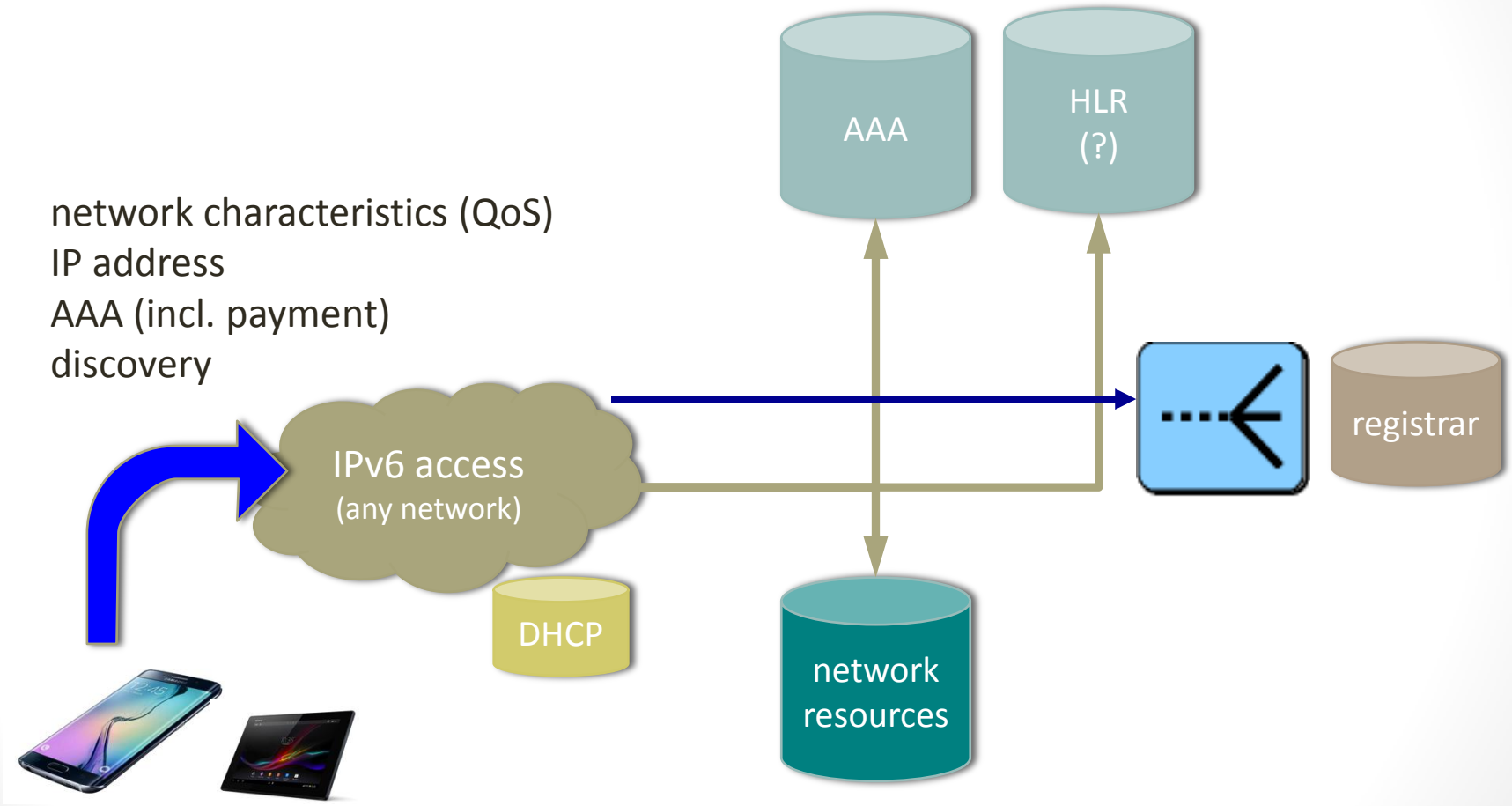
Outside

Inside



What's the simplest network?

network characteristics (QoS)
IP address
AAA (incl. payment)
discovery



one subscriber, multiple devices, multiple providers

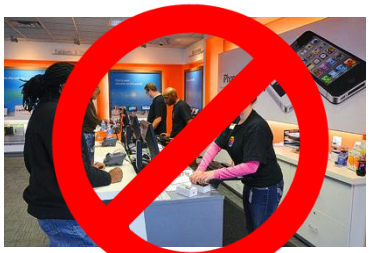
Where do we need mobility?

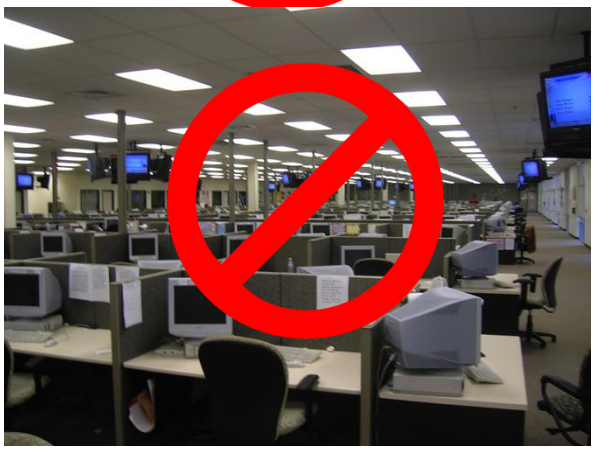
- likely to have access provider diversity
  - what is expected lifetime of IP address?
- PMIP and MIP complex
  - need to re-create application-layer security at L3
- not really needed for HTTP video
  - use mTCP?
  - or HTTP restart?
- maybe not even for real-time media
  - registrar for new-call reachability
  - application layer (SIP) mobility for mid-call hand-off?
- or tunnels, tunnels everywhere?

Make the network location-aware

- 2G/3G/4G are location-ignorant: “I only know your cell sector”
- All mobile devices will be location-aware to the ~5 m
- Some know where they will likely be in the near future
  - public transit
  - road navigation systems
  - ➔ predict access and hand-off
- All devices will have multiple radios
  - use macro cell network to query for local access

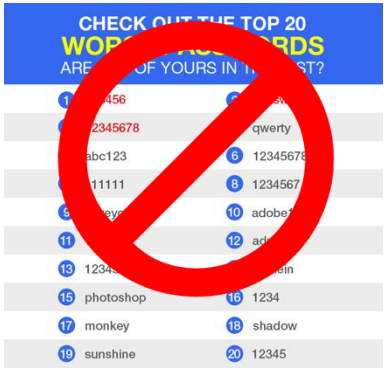
Simplify enrollment





Bluetooth 4.0 Low Energy

enable access



The law of new networks

- *"Any new network technology will be justified on (finally) providing QoS"*
- To succeed, they have to provide good-enough QoS for best effort
  - at least with competition
- The business model for QoS is difficult
  - see bypass toll roads
- QoS is usually not accessible to applications
  - or not end-to-end

I-495 Express Lanes Endure Big Losses Early On Way To Potential Profit

By: Martin Di Caro
February 20, 2015

PLAY comments 2 g+1

WAMU/Martin Di Caro

The 495 Express Lanes offer a paid respite from the usual Beltway traffic, but fewer drivers than expected are using them.

The private sector firm that operates the 495 Express Lanes along the Beltway in Northern Virginia is down more than $230 million on its investment in the two and a half years since the highway opened, but company officials say toll revenues are beginning to consistently exceed operating costs, a sign the project is winning over commuters in one of the region's most congested corridors.

Transurban, the Australia-based toll road builder that operates high-speed HOT (high-occupancy toll) lanes on I-495 and I-95, has said all along it would take years to turn a profit on its enormous investments in Northern Virginia.

IMS /VoLTE

IMS = It Mostly Speaks
VoLTE = Voice-Only Later than Expected

VoLTE: Taking Carriers Beyond Voice

Mon, 06/06/2011 - 12:43pm

by Maisie Ramsay

Get today's wireless headlines and news - Sign up now!

Project yourself into the future – let's say mid-2012. It's been about a year and a half since Verizon Wireless first launched its LTE network in December 2010, and after a long wait, the company has finally come out with the first smartphone running voice over LTE (VoLTE) technology.

You go out and buy the device, turning it on the second you have it out of the box. One of the first things you notice: The phone's native voice application isn't limited to just voice. It has an option for video calls, and there's also an option to send multimedia messages, along with presence indicators that show when people on your contact list can participate in a video call.

AT&T, Verizon Target VoLTE Interop in 2015, RCS Later

By Doug Mohney / November 04, 2014

AT&T and Verizon have officially declared they are working on Voice over LTE (VoLTE) connections between their respective networks and customers. VoLTE calls between Verizon and AT&T customers "is expected" in 2015, according to a statement from the companies. And, there's also some Rich Communications Services (RCS) news buried in the text.

The announcement comes as three out of four major U.S. carriers promote LTE networks and a number of countries plan to turn up LTE and VoLTE in the next 15 months. "Interoperability among VoLTE service providers in the United States and around the world will create a better and richer mobile experience for customers," declares Verizon's press release.

Vodafone Germany announces VoLTE rollout

17 Mar 2015

Germany

Vodafone Germany claims it has become the first German operator to initiate the rollout of voice-over-LTE (VoLTE), having demonstrated the first live VoLTE call on its network at the CeBIT 2015 technology fair in Hanover. The UK-owned operator says that the technology offers customers an 'unprecedented voice service and telephony experience', ensuring 'crystal clear voice quality, super-fast call set-up and encrypted phone calls' across its LTE network, which currently covers 70% of Germany. Vodafone revealed that it will soon be launching new LTE smartphones for VoLTE, including handsets from manufacturers such as Samsung, Sony and HTC. The announcement follows reports last week that Vodafone plans to introduce both Wi-Fi calling and VoLTE in the UK this summer, following trials of the technologies in laboratory conditions.

Surge pricing – non-telecom

Uber surprised a 26-year-old Baltimore woman with a spooky Halloween bill that hit $326 on a routine ride, resulting in her inability to pay her rent and general Internet outrage.

Gabrielle Wathen posted to the site GoFund.me, saying that she went out for her 26th birthday on the night of Halloween and, after taking an Uber an approximately 22-minute ride home around 3am, was charged $326. This means she can't pay her $450 rent, and so she hit the crowd-funding site to ask for help. She raised upwards of $500 by using Instagram to build up

Gett, The Uber Without Surge Pricing, Cuts Ride Fares In NYC

Posted Mar 10, 2015 by Jordan Crook (@jordanrcrook)

People love Uber because it's convenient. You tap a couple buttons on your phone and a car comes and whisks you away.

If there's one customer complaint about the company, though, it's probably surge pricing, when the company drives up fare prices during times of high demand.

Uber's surge pricing policy — as well as the "dynamic pricing" policies of other startups like Lyft — came under fire Monday at a New York City Council transportation committee hearing.

BI, 1/13/2015

5G Summit May 2015

Aggressive competitors compete on simplicity

No rate increases. No annual service contracts. No data overages. No limits.

We are on a mission to make mobile make sense.

We offer simple ideas that save people a lot of money on their monthly mobile bills. We are real people that pick up the phone when you call. We believe in a better way to do mobile.

May 14, 2014, Santa Rosa, California: Sonic.net, a leading Internet and telephone service provider, has announced the build-out of Gigabit Fiber Internet service in the Bay Area City of Brentwood, California. Sonic.net will offer Gigabit Fiber Internet + Unlimited Phone service for $40 per month.

Capital investment

Company	Revenue	Capital expenditures	%
Comcast (US) [3Q14]	$11.04B	$1.644B	14.9
Telekom (DE) [3Q14]	€15.6B	$2.58B	16.5
Safaricom (KE) [H1FY15]	Ksh 79.34B	Ksh 12.37	15.5

Comcast's Q2 2014 Capital Spending Trends

Category	Growth CapEx ($ mil.)	% of Total (%)	Maintenance CapEx ($ mil.)	% of Total (%)	Total CapEx* ($ mil.)	% of Total (%)
Consumer Premises Equipment	668	65	72	16	740	50
Network Infrastructure	107	10	287	64	394	27
Support Capital	48	5	89	20	137	9
Commercial	209	20	0	0	209	14
Total*	**1,032**	-	**448**	-	**1,480**	-

As of Aug. 2014. * Total excludes $13 million in discretionary capital. Total including discretionary spending was $1,493 mil. Source: Comcast. © 2014 SNL Kagan, a division of SNL Financial LC, estimates. All rights reserved.

The value of bits

- Technologist: A bit is a bit is a bit
- Economist: Some bits are more valuable than other bits
  - e.g., $/bit(email) >> $/bit(video)
  - no-QoS bits dominate in volume

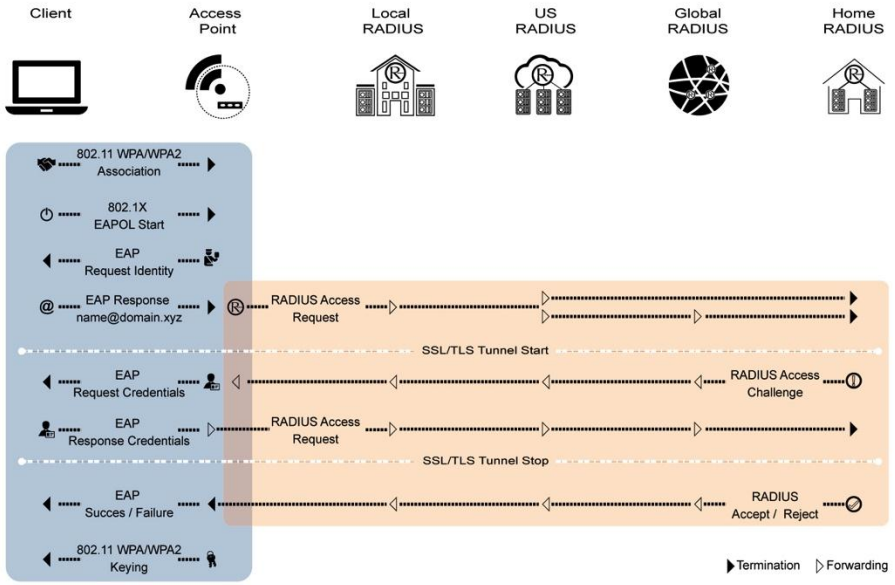
Application	Volume	Cost per unit	Cost / MB	Cost / TB
Cable video	660 GB		$0.06	$60
Voice (13 kb/s GSM)	97.5 kB/minute	10c	$1.02	$1M
Mobile data	5 GB	$40	$0.008	$8,000
MMS (pictures)	< 300 KB, avg. 50 kB	25c	$5.00	$5M
SMS	160 B	10c	$625	$625M

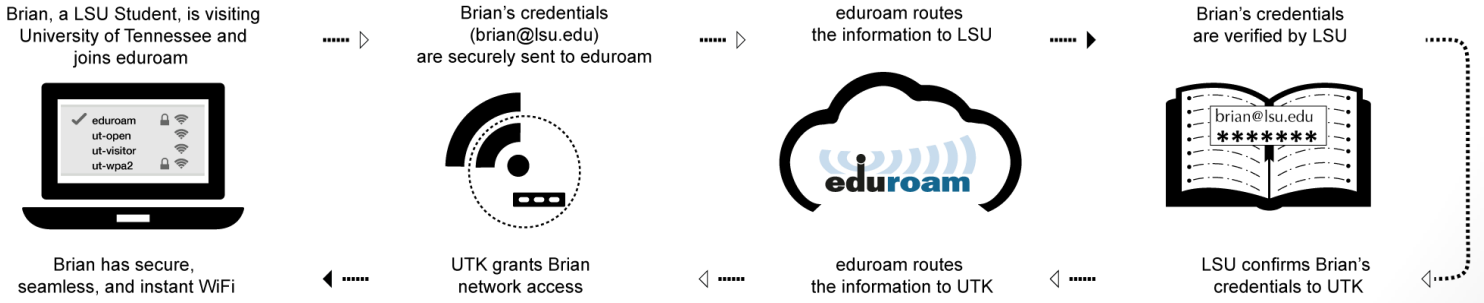
5G prototype: Eduroam

eduroam

Global WiFi Roaming For Academia

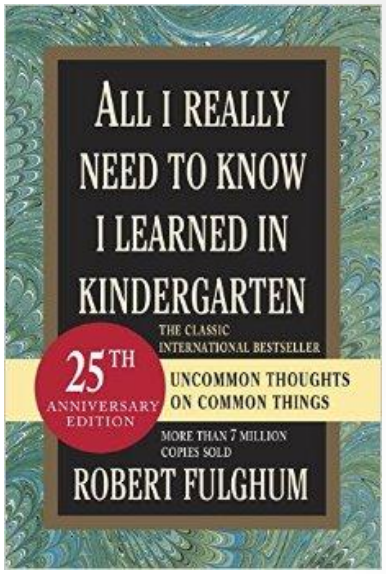
an Internet2 NET+ service





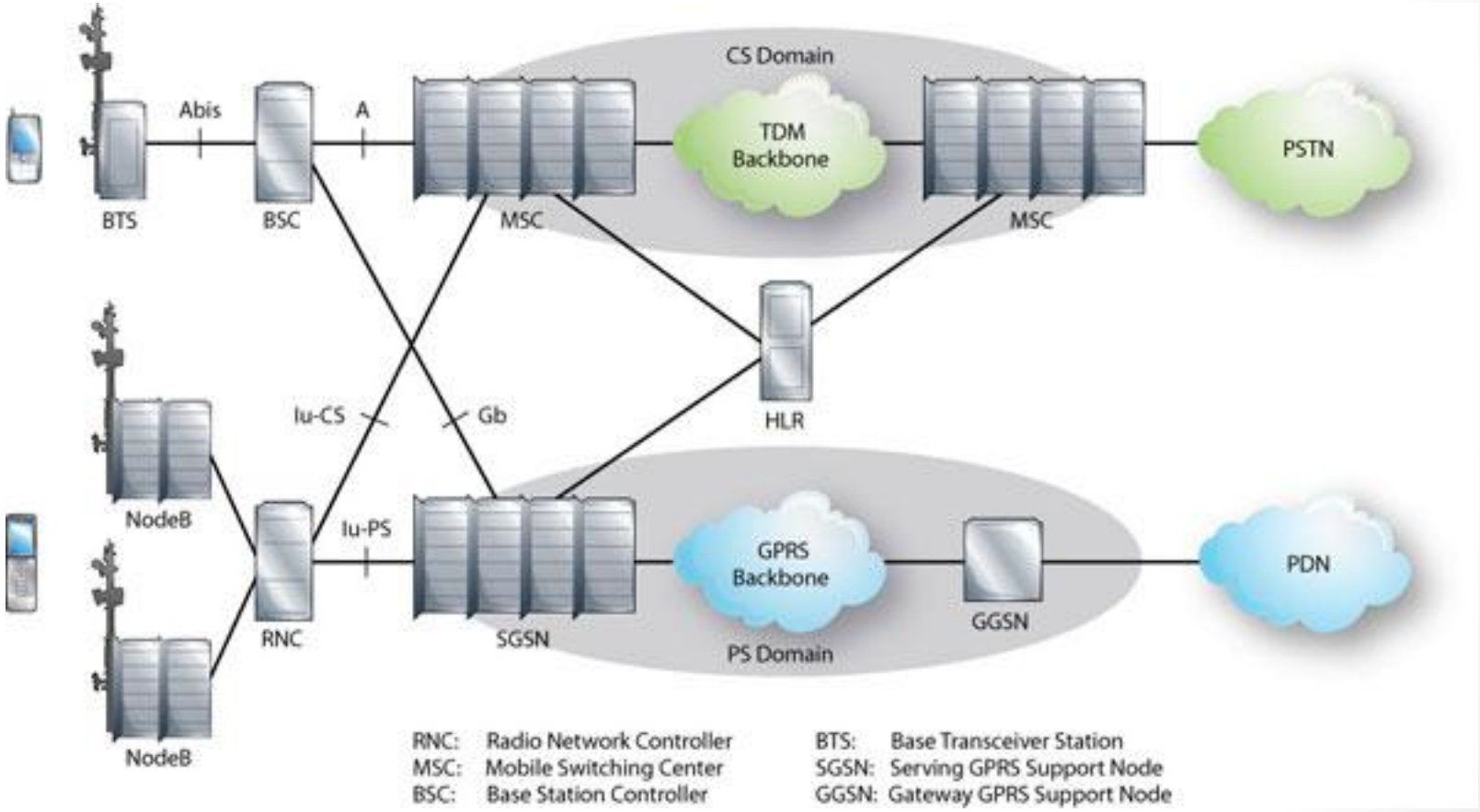
Growing-up lessons

- Complexity kills
- Play fair
- CapEx is once, OpEx is forever
- Know where you are
- Share everything
- Don’t trust strangers



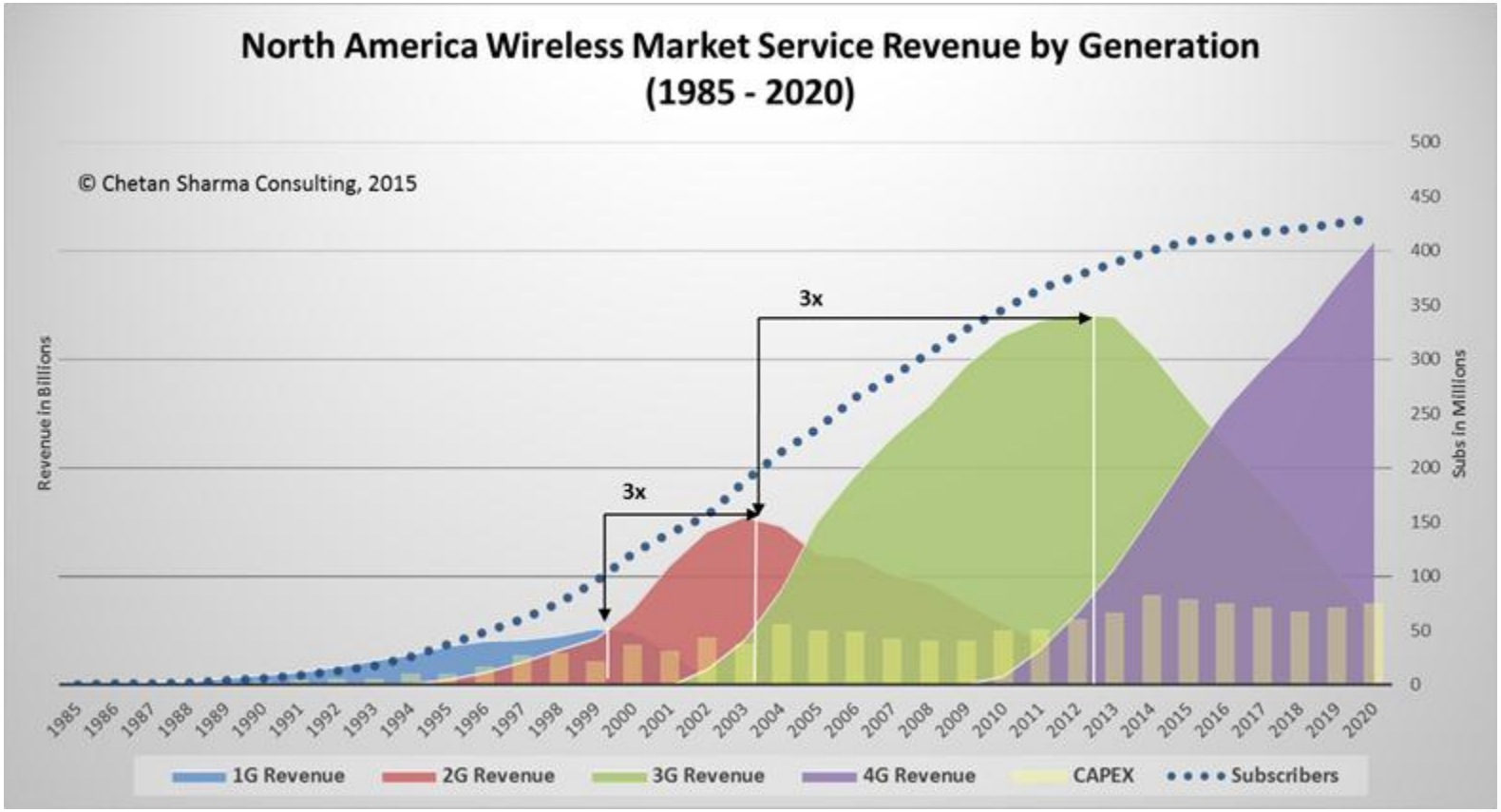
BACKUP

LTE architecture



Cell towers

Tower owner	Number of towers
Crown Castle	39,739
American Tower	40,000 (with VZW)
SBA Communications	15,151
United Cellular Co.	4,802
Verizon Wireless	1,400
T-Mobile Towers	1,003
Time Warner	950
Mediacom Communications	750
Charter Communications	650
Diamond Communications	637
Trillion Partners	635

cost/tower: $150k
total US: 205k

Wireless market evolution