

# Introduction to LTE



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Audio/Video recordings of this class lecture are available at:

<http://www.cse.wustl.edu/~jain/cse574-16/>



1. LTE: Key Features
2. OFDMA and SC-FDMA
3. Evolved Packet Core (EPC)
4. LTE Frame Structure
5. Resource Allocation

## LTE: Key Features

Long Term Evolution. 3GPP Release 8, 2009.

1. **3.9G** (Pre-4G) cellular technology  
Sold as 4G by some providers.  
4G=International Mobile Telecommunication (IMT) Advanced Requirements in ITU M.2134-2008
2. **Many different bands**: 700/1500/1700/**2100**/2600 MHz
3. **Flexible Bandwidth**: 1.4/3/5/10/15/20 MHz
4. Frequency Division Duplexing (FDD) and Time Division Duplexing (TDD)  
⇒ Both *paired* and *unpaired* spectrum
5. 4x4 MIMO, Multi-user collaborative MIMO
6. Beamforming in the downlink

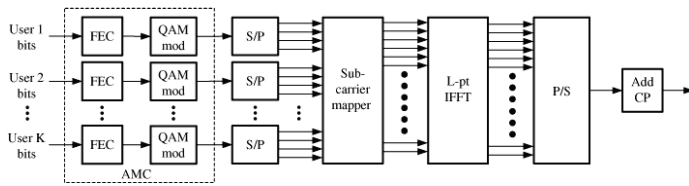
Ref: A. Ghosh, J. Zhang, J. G. Andrews, R. Muhamed, "Fundamentals of LTE," Prentice Hall, 2010, ISBN: 0137033117, 464 pp. Safari book.

## LTE: Key Features (Cont)

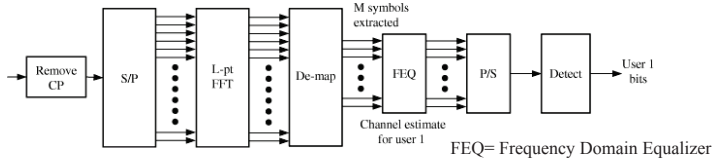
8. Data Rate: 326 Mbps/down 86 Mbps up (4x4 MIMO 20 MHz)
9. Modulation: OFDM with QPSK, 16 QAM, 64 QAM
10. **OFDMA** downlink,  
Single Carrier Frequency Division Multiple Access (**SC-FDMA**) uplink
11. **Hybrid ARQ** Transmission
12. Short **Frame Sizes** of 10ms and 1ms ⇒ faster feedback and better efficiency at high speed
13. **Persistent scheduling** to reduce control channel overhead for low bit rate voice transmission.
14. **IP based** flat network architecture

## OFDMA Downlink

- Transmitter at Base Station: IFFT converts frequency to time



- Receiver at User Terminal: FFT converts time to frequency



Ref: A. Ghosh, J. Zhang, J. G. Andrews, R. Muhamed, "Fundamentals of LTE," Prentice Hall, 2010, ISBN: 0137033117, 464 pp. Safari book.

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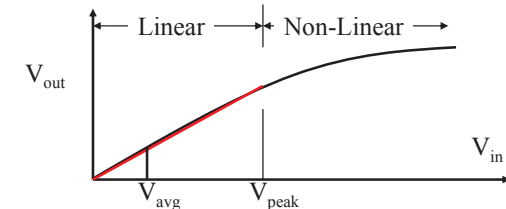
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## Peak-to-Average Power Ratio (PAPR)

- OFDM
  - ⇒ Each carrier modulated according to specific channel condition
  - ⇒ High variation of power levels
  - ⇒ Higher Peak-to-Average Power Ratio (PAPR)
  - ⇒ Higher cost of amplifiers
- Amplifiers are linear only over a restricted region
  - ⇒ Costly amplifier or reduce average signal power significantly
  - ⇒ Can afford such amplifiers in Base stations but not in mobiles



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## SC-FDMA

- Single-Carrier Frequency Division Multiple Access
- Each user gets a contiguous part of the channel



- Uses single carrier modulation and adds a cyclic prefix
- Single carrier ⇒ Not much variation in amplitude ⇒ Lower PAPR
- Better for uplink because slight mis-synchronization among users does not affect the decoding significantly
- With OFDMA each user's subcarriers are spread all over the band and may affect other users subcarriers all over the band

Ref: A. Ghosh, J. Zhang, J. G. Andrews, R. Muhamed, "Fundamentals of LTE," Prentice Hall, 2010, ISBN: 0137033117, 464 pp. Washington University in St. Louis

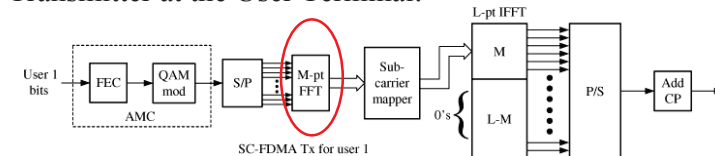
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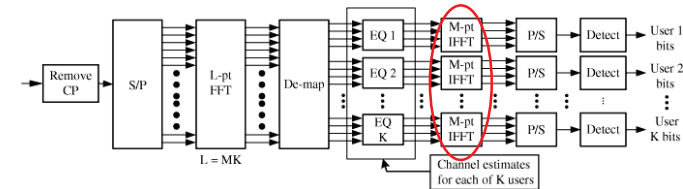
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## SC-FDMA (Cont)

- In practice, SC-FDMA is implemented as if the user is allocated a contiguous subset of subcarriers
- Transmitter at the User Terminal:



- Receiver at the Base Station:



- SC-FDMA = Discrete Fourier Transform *Pre-coded* OFDMA

Ref: A. Ghosh, J. Zhang, J. G. Andrews, R. Muhamed, "Fundamentals of LTE," Prentice Hall, 2010, ISBN: 0137033117, 464 pp. Washington University in St. Louis

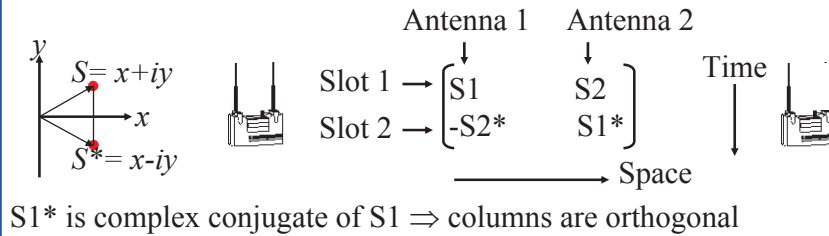
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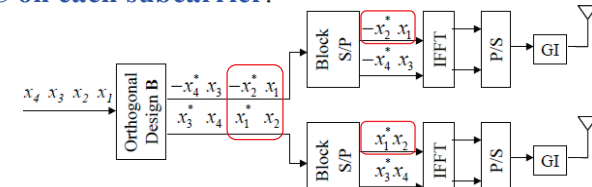
## Space Time Block Codes (STBC)

- ❑ Invented 1998 by Vehid Tarokh.
- ❑ Transmit multiple redundant copies from multiple antennas
- ❑ Precisely coordinate distribution of symbols in space and time.
- ❑ Receiver combines multiple copies of the received signals optimally to overcome multipath.
- ❑ Example: Two antennas: Two symbols in two slots  $\Rightarrow$  Rate 1

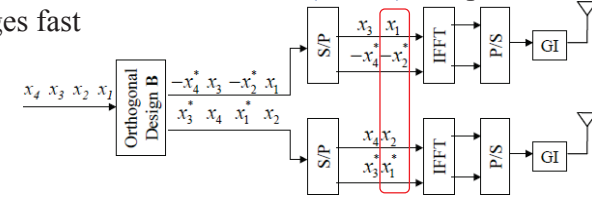


## Space-Frequency Block Codes

- ❑ STBC on OFDM (Multi-carrier): Two alternatives
- ❑ **STBC on each subcarrier:**



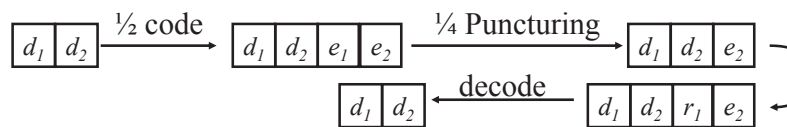
- ❑ **STBC on across subcarriers (SFBC):** Helps if channel changes fast



Ref: G. Bauch, "Space-Time Block Codes Versus Space-Frequency Block Codes," IEEE VTC, Apr 2003, <http://citeseerx.ist.psu.edu/viewdoc/download?doi=10.1.1.2.1724&rep=rep1&type=pdf>

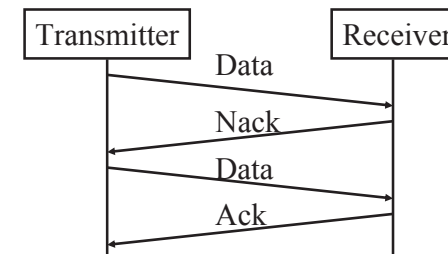
## Puncturing

- ❑ Use large number of error correcting code (ECC) bits but send only some of them
- ❑ Example: 1/2 code = 1 ECC bit/Original bit
- ❑ Or 4 bits for each 2-bit symbol
- ❑ 1/4 puncturing  $\Rightarrow$  Drop every 4<sup>th</sup> bit  $\Rightarrow$  send 3 bits for each 2-bit symbol = 2/3 code
- ❑ Receiver puts random bits in the punctured positions and decodes  $\Rightarrow$  high probability of correct decoding particularly if the SINR is high
- ❑ 1/2 code with 1/4<sup>th</sup> puncture is not as good as 2/3 code in general but puncturing helps in some situations, such as, H-ARQ



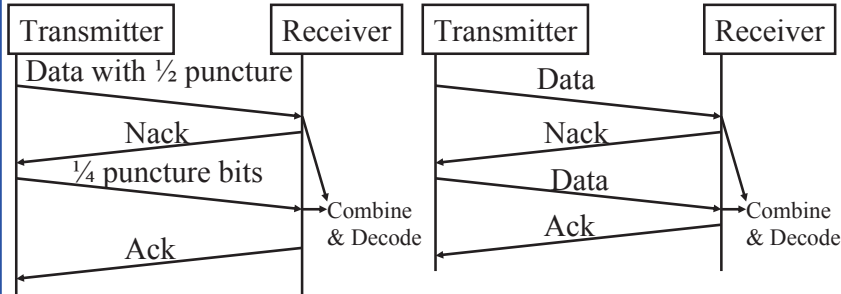
## ARQ

- ❑ **Automatic Repeat reQest (ARQ)**
- ❑ Retransmit a packet if it is received in error
- ❑ Previous (bad) bits are discarded.



## Hybrid ARQ

- ❑ PHY and MAC layers work together ⇒ Hybrid
- ❑ PHY layer sends some bits first (uses puncturing)
  - Sends additional bits only if necessary.
  - Additional bits are sent until the decoding is successful. (**Incremental Redundancy** or **Type II H-ARQ**)
  - Another alternative is to combine the good bits of multiple transmissions (**Chase Combining** or **Type I H-ARQ**)



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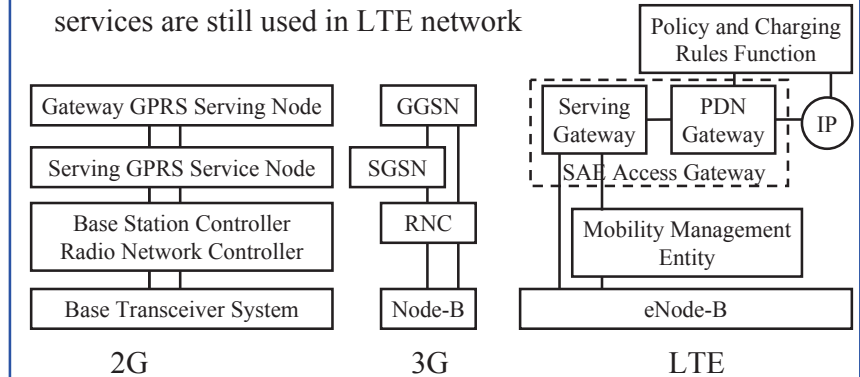
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## IP-Based Flat Network Architecture

- ❑ Flat ⇒ Less hierarchical and fewer nodes
- ❑ All services (Voice/multimedia) over IP
- ❑ For backward compatibility some non-IP protocols and services are still used in LTE network



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## Evolved Packet Core (EPC)

- ❑ Four new elements:
  1. **Serving Gateway:** Demarcation point between RAN and Core. Serves as mobility anchor when terminals move
  2. **Packet Data network Gateway (PGW):** Termination of EPC towards Internet or IMS network. IP services, address allocation, deep packet inspection, policy enforcement
  3. **Mobility Management Entity (MME):** Location tracking, paging, roaming, and handovers. All control plane functions related to subscriber and session management.
  4. **Policy and Charging Rules Function (PCRF):** Manages QoS

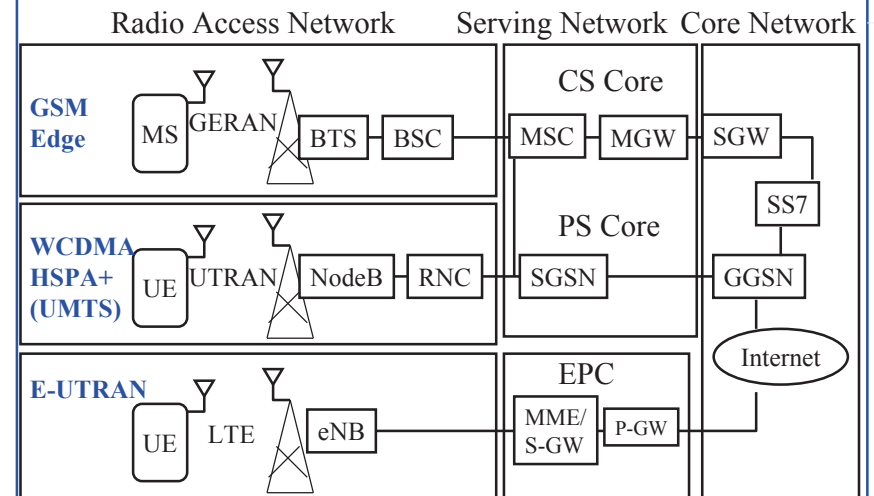
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## Evolved Packet System (EPS)



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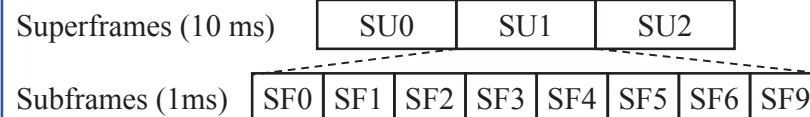
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## Evolved Packet System (Cont)

- ❑ CS = Circuit Switched
- ❑ EPC = Evolved Packet Core
- ❑ EPS = Evolved Packet System
- ❑ GERAN = GSM Enhanced Radio Access Network
- ❑ GGSN = Gateway GPRS Support Node
- ❑ LTE = Long Term Evolution
- ❑ MME = Mobility Management Utility
- ❑ MSC = Mobile Switching Center
- ❑ P-GW = Packet Gateway
- ❑ PS = Packet Switched
- ❑ RNC = Radio Network Control
- ❑ S-GW = Serving Gateway
- ❑ SGSN = Service GPRS Support Node
- ❑ SS7 = System 7
- ❑ eNB = Evolved NodeB

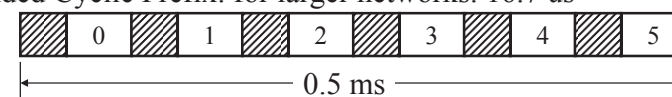
## LTE Frame Structure



- ❑ Subframe = 2 slots of 0.5 ms each
- ❑ Slot = 6 or 7 symbols of 0.667 ms each
- ❑ Normal Cyclic Prefix: 5.2 us for 1<sup>st</sup> symbol, 4.7 us for others



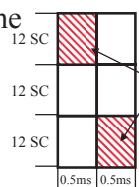
- ❑ Extended Cyclic Prefix: for larger networks. 16.7 us



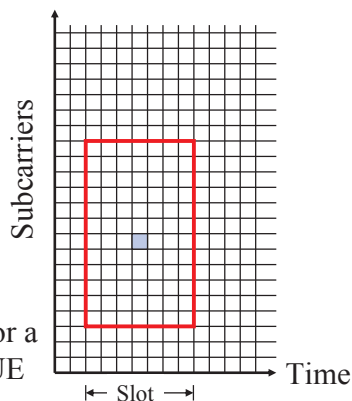
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## Resource Allocation

- ❑ **Time slot:** 0.5 ms  
6 or 7 OFDM symbols
- ❑ **Subcarriers:** 15 kHz
- ❑ **Physical Resource Block:**  
12 subcarriers (180 kHz)  
over 1 time slot
- ❑ **Minimum Allocation:** 2 PRBs  
per subframe



PRBs for a single UE



## WiMAX vs. LTE



- ❑ Similar with very minor differences
- ❑ Net Head vs. Bell Head
- ❑ Enterprise Networking vs. Carrier Networking
- ❑ Academic vs. Telecom
- ❑ Intel/Google vs. Ericsson/QUALCOMM
- ❑ Both use OFDMA.  
Both are incompatible with 2G and 3G (CDMA) radios.
- ❑ Quad-band  $\Rightarrow$  Penta-band



## Summary

1. WiMAX and LTE are pre-4G technologies.
2. WiMAX and LTE have numerous **common features**: Many bands, flexible bandwidth, FDD/TDD. MIMO/Beamforming H-ARQ, IP-Based, OFDMA. The key differentiator is SC-FDMA for uplink in LTE to reduce **PAPR**.
3. STBC requires transmitting redundant symbols from multiple antenna. **SFBC** require that these redundant symbols be sent on different subcarriers.
4. **Puncturing** allows some ECC bits to be not transmitting. This is used in **H-ARQ** to send extra bits only if necessary.
5. LTE uses a **super-frame** of 10 subframes of 1 ms each. Each **subframe** has one **slot** for uplink and downlink each.

## Reading List

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## Acronyms

- ❑ 3GPP 3rd Generation Partnership Project
- ❑ ARQ Automatic Repeat Request
- ❑ BPSK Binary Phase Shift Keying
- ❑ BS Base Station
- ❑ BSC Base Station Controller
- ❑ BTS Base Transceiver Station
- ❑ CDMA Code Division Multiple Access
- ❑ CFI Control Format Indicator
- ❑ CS Circuit Switched
- ❑ DCI Downlink Control Information
- ❑ DL Downlink
- ❑ DVB-H Digital Video Broadcast handheld
- ❑ ECC Error Correcting Code
- ❑ eNB Enhanced Node B
- ❑ eNode-B Enhanced Node B
- ❑ EPC Evolved Packet Core

## Acronyms (Cont)

- ❑ EPS Evolved Packet System
- ❑ FDD Frequency Division Duplexing
- ❑ FDMA Frequency Division Multiple Access
- ❑ FEQ Frequency Domain Equalizer
- ❑ FFT Fast Fourier Transform
- ❑ FSTD Frequency-Shift Transmit Diversity
- ❑ GERAN GSM/EDGE Radio Access Network
- ❑ GGSN Gateway GPRS Support
- ❑ GPRS General Packet Radio Service
- ❑ GSM Global System for Mobile Communications
- ❑ GW Gateway
- ❑ HSPA High-Speed Packet Access
- ❑ ID Identifier
- ❑ IEEE Institution of Electrical and Electronic Engineers
- ❑ IETF Internet Engineering Task Force
- ❑ IMS Internet Multimedia System
- ❑ IMT-Advanced International Mobile Telecommunications Advanced

## Acronyms (Cont)

- ❑ IP Internet Protocol
- ❑ ITU International Telecommunications Union
- ❑ kHz Kilo Hertz
- ❑ LTE Long Term Evolution
- ❑ MAC Message Authentication Code
- ❑ MAC Media Access Control
- ❑ MBMS Multicast-Broadcast Mobile Services
- ❑ MGW Media Gateway
- ❑ MHz Mega Hertz
- ❑ MIMO Multiple Input Multiple Output
- ❑ MME Mobility Management Entity
- ❑ MSC Mobile Switching Center
- ❑ NACK Negative Acknowledgement
- ❑ OFDM Orthogonal Frequency Division Modulation
- ❑ OFDMA Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiple Access
- ❑ PAPR Peak-to-Average Power Ratio

## Acronyms (Cont)

- ❑ PCRF Policy and Charging Rules Function
- ❑ PDCCCH Packet Downlink Control Channel
- ❑ PDCP Packet Data Convergence Protocol
- ❑ PDFICH Physical Control Format Indicator Channel
- ❑ PDN Packet Data Network
- ❑ PDU Protocol Data Unit
- ❑ PGW Packet Data network Gateway
- ❑ PHY Physical Layer
- ❑ PS Packet Switched
- ❑ QAM Quadrature Amplitude Modulation
- ❑ QoS Quality of Service
- ❑ QPSK Quadrature Phase Shift Keying
- ❑ RAN Radio Access Network
- ❑ RLC Radio Link Control
- ❑ RNC Radio Network Control
- ❑ ROHC Robust Header Compression

## Acronyms (Cont)

- ❑ RRC Radio Resource Control
- ❑ SAE Service Access Gateway
- ❑ SC-FDMA Single Carrier Frequency Division Multiple Access
- ❑ SC Single Carrier
- ❑ SDU Service Data Unit
- ❑ SFBC Space Frequency Block Code
- ❑ SGSN Service GPRS Support
- ❑ SGW Serving Gateway
- ❑ SINR Signal to Interference and Noise Ratio
- ❑ SISO Single Input Single Output
- ❑ SN Sequence Number
- ❑ SNR Signal-to-noise ratio
- ❑ SO Segment Offset
- ❑ SOstart Beginning of Segment
- ❑ STBC Space Time Block Code
- ❑ TD-SCDMA Time Division Synchronous Code Division Multiple Access



## Acronyms (Cont)

- ❑ TDD Time Division Duplexing
- ❑ TDMA Time Division Multiple Access
- ❑ UE User Element
- ❑ UL Uplink
- ❑ UMTS Universal Mobile Telecommunications System
- ❑ UTRA UMTS Terrestrial Radio Access
- ❑ UTRAN UMTS Terrestrial Radio Access Network
- ❑ VTC Vehicular Technology Conference
- ❑ WCDMA Wideband Code Division Multiple Access
- ❑ WiMAX Worldwide Interoperability for Microwave Access

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Low Power WAN Protocols for IoT,

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