

# Wireless Data Networking



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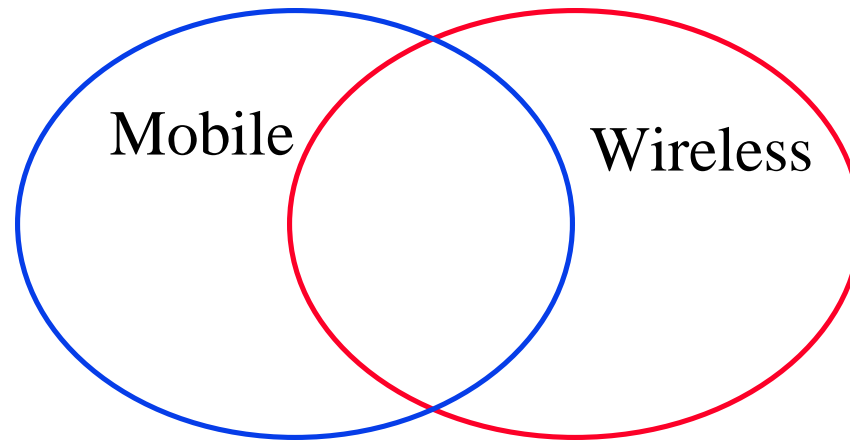
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- q Terminology
- q Access Methods
- q Spread Spectrum
- q Wireless local area networks
- q Wireless wide area networks

Note: wireless **phone** services and standards not covered.

# Mobile vs Wireless

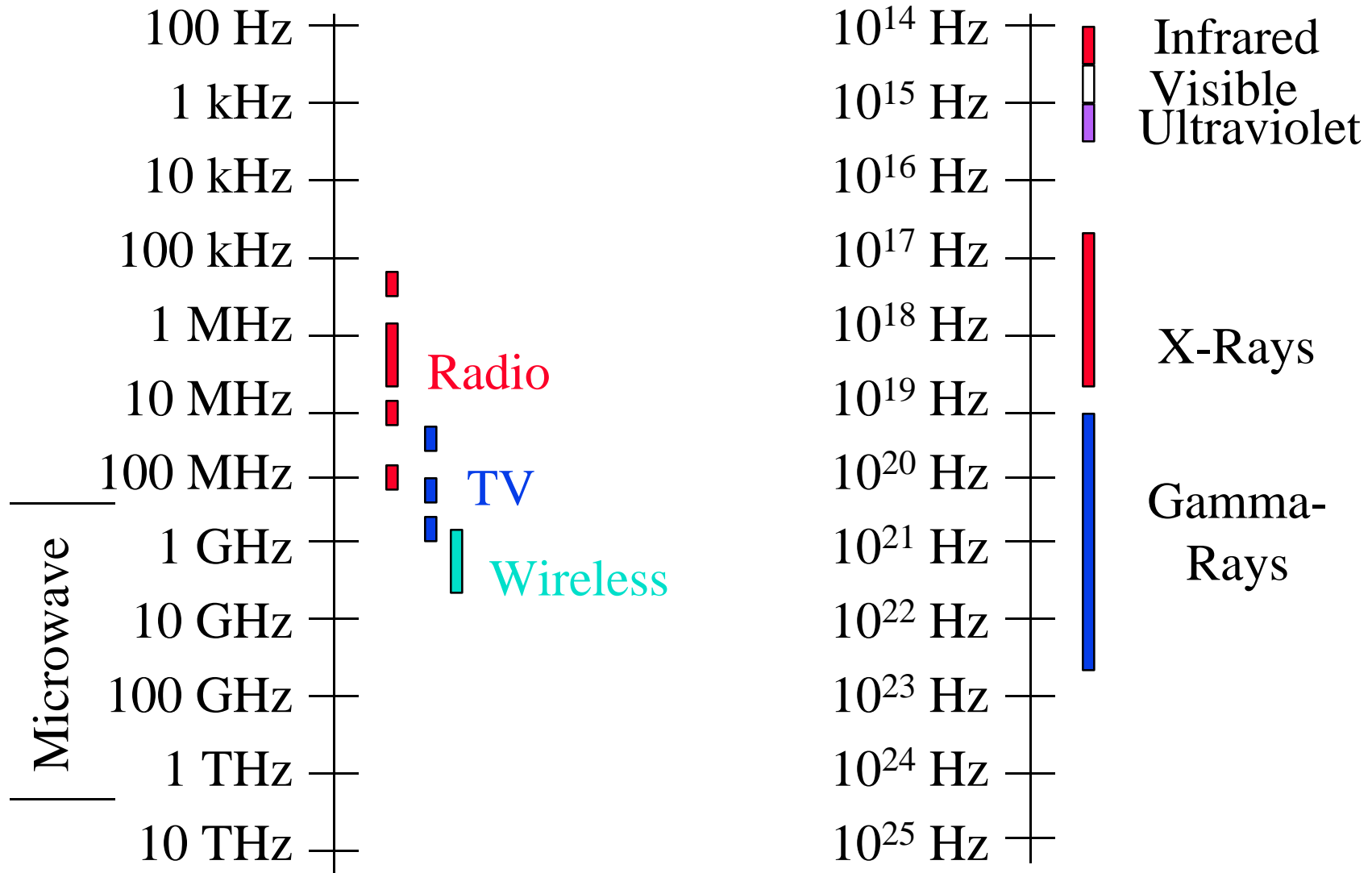


- q Mobile vs Stationary
- q Wireless vs Wired
- q Wireless  $\Rightarrow$  media sharing issues
- q Mobile  $\Rightarrow$  routing, addressing issues

# Physical Layer

- q Analog vs Digital
- q Infrared, Microwave, Radio
- q Multiplexing: Frequency, Time, Space, Code division

# Electromagnetic Spectrum



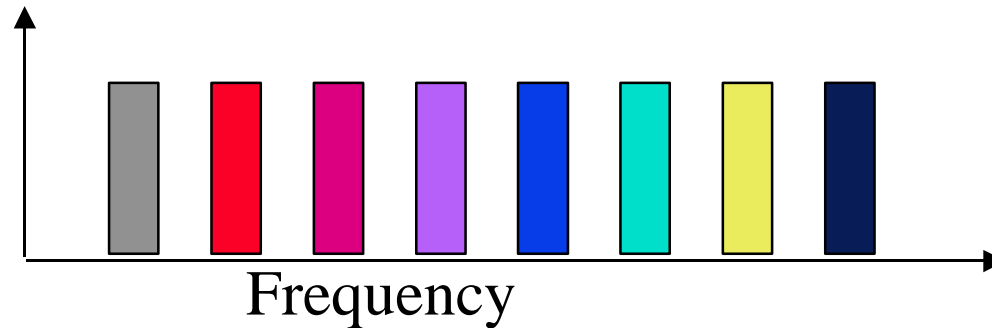
# Spectrum Issues

- q For the same power, lower frequencies travel farther than higher frequencies ⇒ Short wave for Voice of America  
Medium wave for local radio
- q US allocations of spectrum is not the same as in other countries ⇒ You can't use the same equipment everywhere
- q There is a shortage of available spectrum.
  - ⇒ A source of income for the Government
  - ⇒ Spectrum no longer given by lottery but by bids
- q Federal Government uses up 30% of available spectrum
- q Earlier communications used up all lower frequencies
- q Frequencies once considered unusable are now being used.  
915 MHz, 2.4 GHz, 5.8 GHz

# Other Radio Problems

- q Broadcast  $\Rightarrow$  Received by all receivers
- q Air  $\Rightarrow$  Simple to tap the transmission  
 $\Rightarrow$  More subject to security risk
- q Radio  $\Rightarrow$  Easy to jam
- q Portable  $\Rightarrow$  Easy to steal, loose, and damage
- q Easily monitored using scanners
- q In 1992, 1.7M scanners vs  
1.3M Phones sold in US
- q Toronto Study: 80% of cellular traffic monitored
- q 60% of calls are taped [Boston Globe 4/14/94]  
 $\Rightarrow$  NH Lawyers can't use cellular with clients

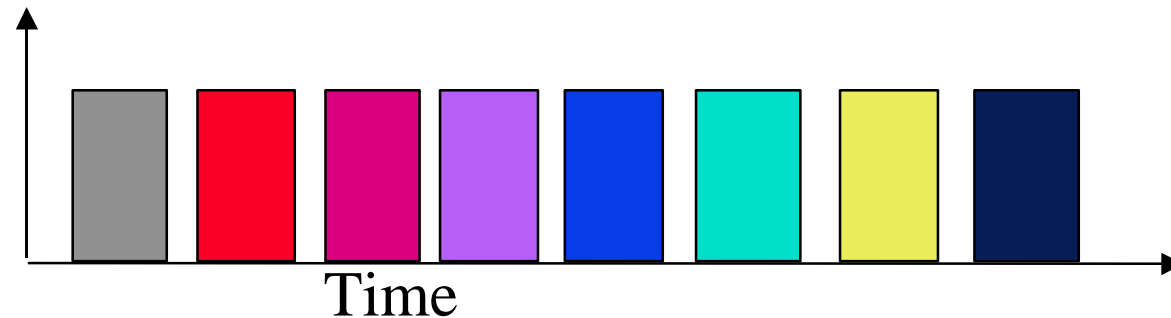
# Frequency Division Multiple Access



- q Frequency band = Channel (as in TV or Public Radio)
- q Adjacent Channels  $\Rightarrow$  Interference
- q Dynamic on-demand allocation of channels
- q Number of Channels, Arrival rate of calls, Duration of calls, User population  $\Rightarrow$  Blocking probability
- q Downstream and upstream channels use different frequency bands
- q FDMA used in all analog systems (including US cellular phone system)

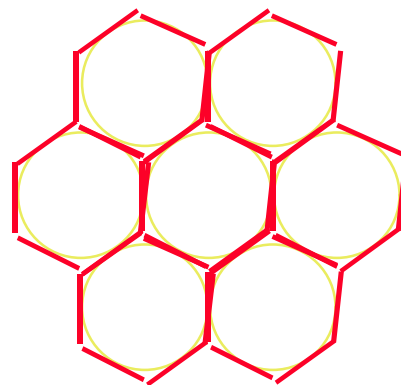
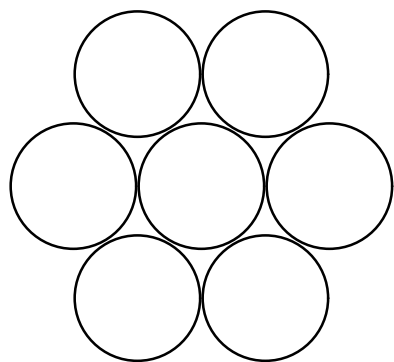


# Time Division Multiple Access



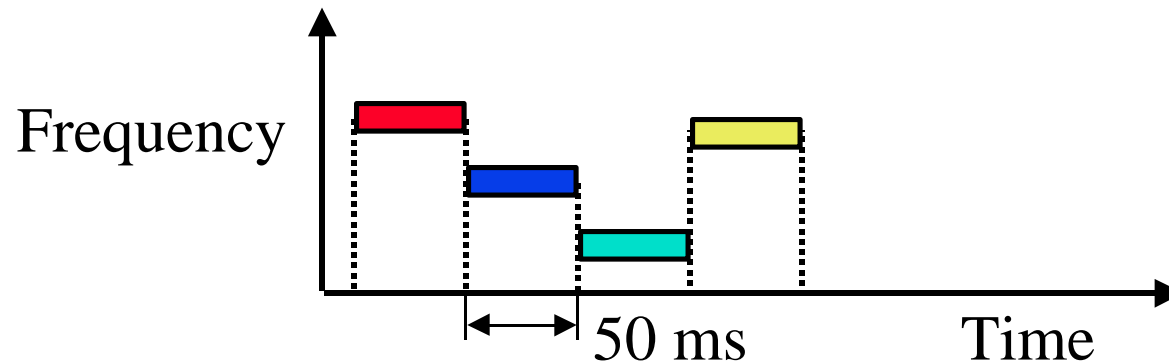
- q Adjacent slots  $\Rightarrow$  Synchronization and Interference
- q TDMA used in IS-54 (GSM)  
Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM) is a digital cellular radio system
- q Channel rate = Sum of slot data rate

# Space Division Multiple Access Cellular Technology



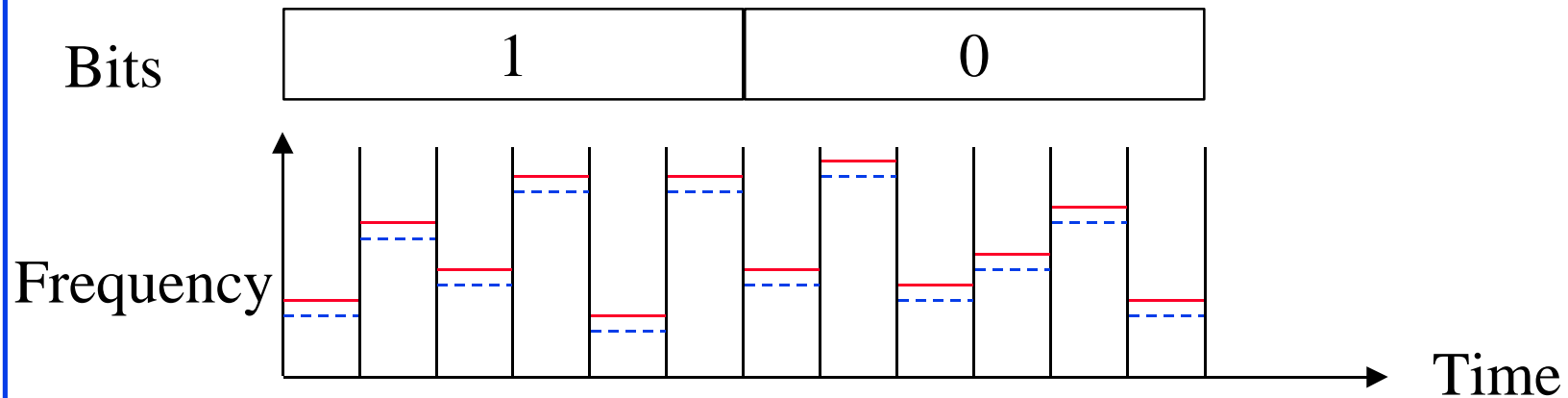
- q Repetitive 7-pattern
- q Cell size 0.5 mile to 10 miles
- q Terrain topology, weather affects coverage
- q Smaller cells  $\Rightarrow$  More reuse  
 $\Rightarrow$  More capacity  $\Rightarrow$  Smaller power  $\Rightarrow$  lighter hand sets
- q Macro (<35km), Micro (<1km), and Pico (<100m) cells

# Frequency Hopping Spread Spectrum

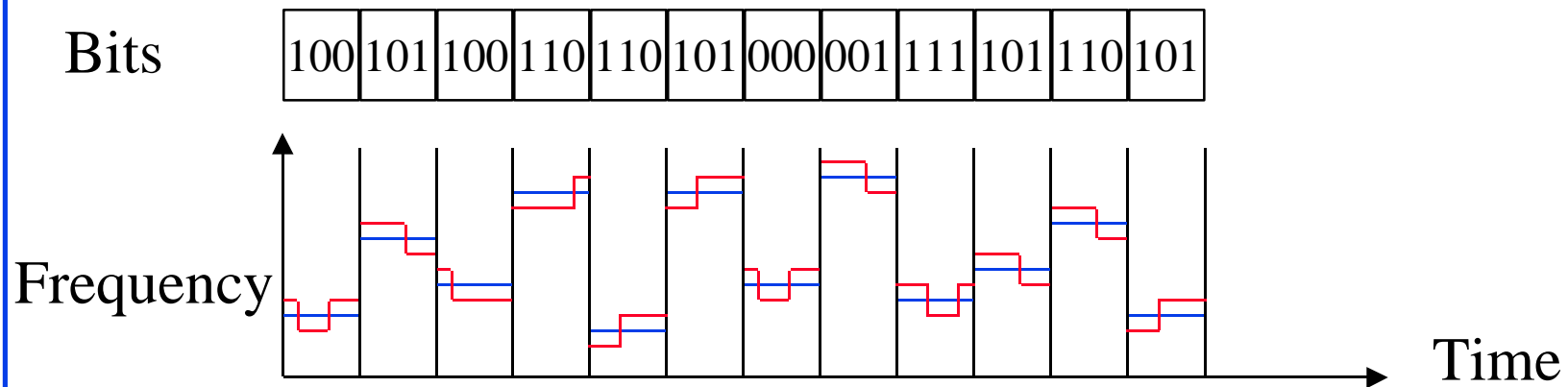


- q Pseudo-random frequency hopping
- q Spreads the power over a wide spectrum  
⇒ Spread Spectrum
- q Developed initially for military
- q Patented by actress Hedy Lamarr
- q Narrowband interference can't jam

# Fast and Slow FH

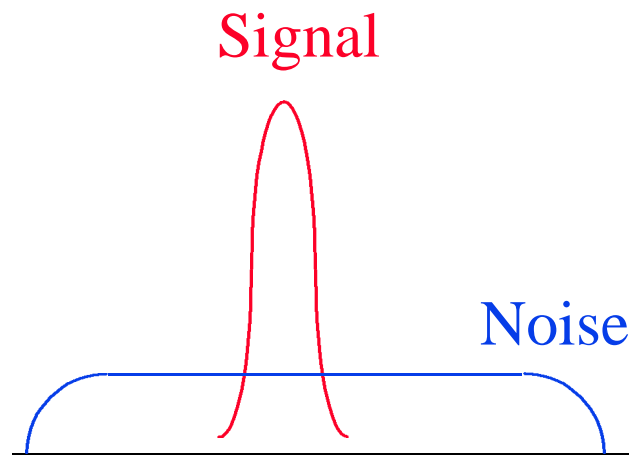


(a) Fast hopping with 6 hops per bit

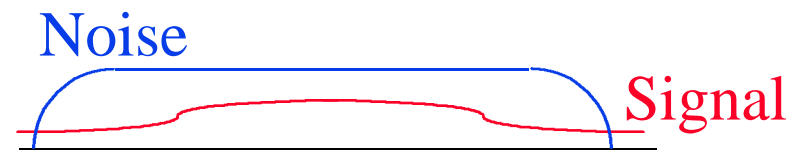


(b) Slow hopping with 3 bits per hop

# Spectrum

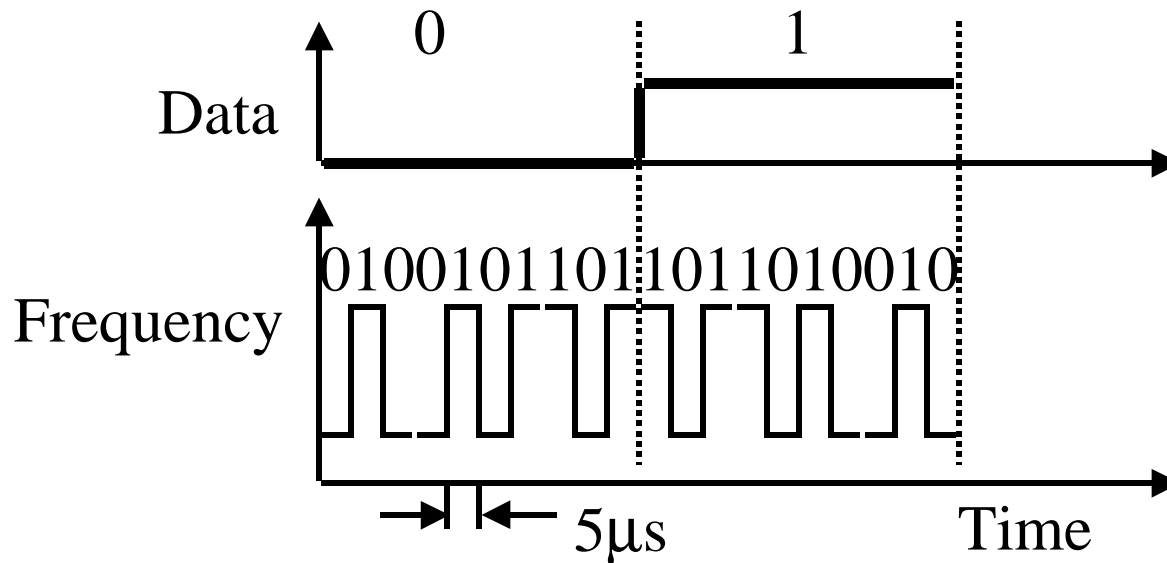


(a) Normal



(b) Frequency Hopping

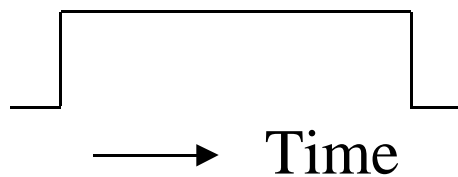
# Direct-Sequence Spread Spectrum



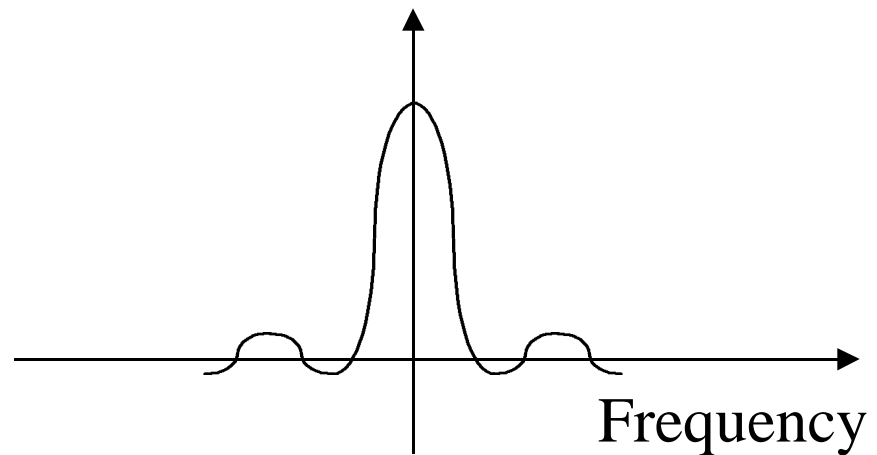
- q Spreading factor = Code bits/data bit  
10-100 commercial (Min 10 by FCC), 10,000 for military
- q Signal bandwidth  $>10 \times$  data bandwidth
- q Code sequence synchronization
- q Correlation between codes  
 $\Rightarrow$  Interference  $\Rightarrow$  Orthogonal codes

# DS Spectrum

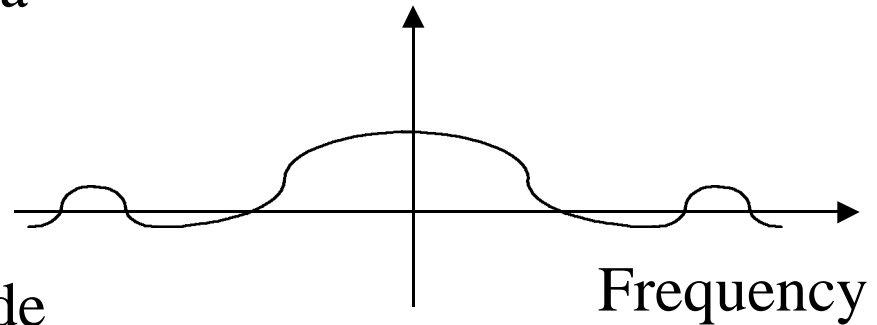
Time Domain



Frequency Domain



(a) Data



(b) Code

# CDMA

## q Advantages:

### q Little Interference

: Noise can be 18 dB higher than signal

### q No channel assignment

⇒ Frequency reuse in every cell

⇒ 20 times more users than FDMA

### q Enhanced security

## q Disadvantages:

### q Code synchronization and tracking

### q Tight power control to ensure equal power reception at the base from all mobile

## q IS-95 US Digital Cellular standard is based on CDMA

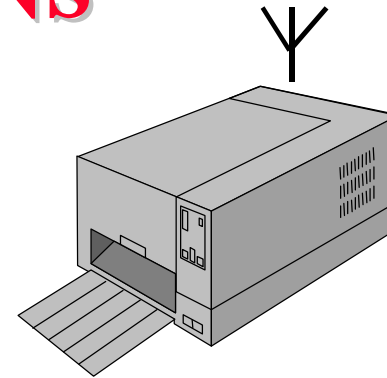
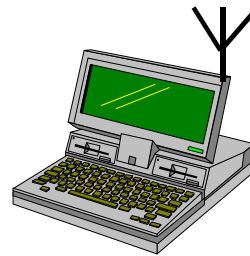
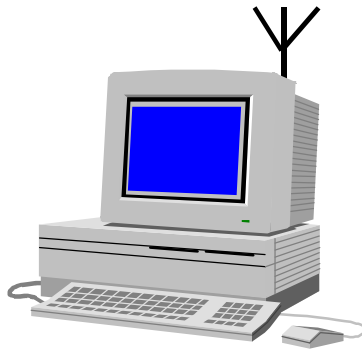


# Wireless LANs Market Growth

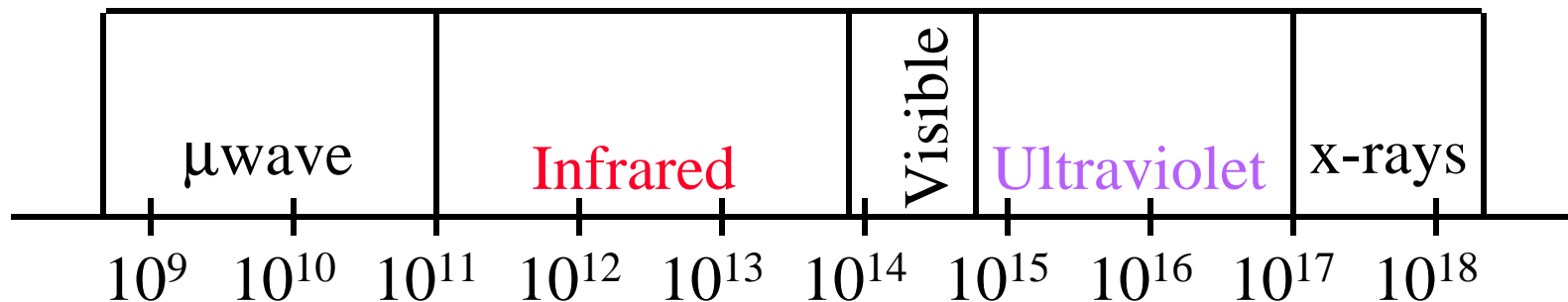
\$300M in 1992 to over \$1.5B in 1997

- q Portable computing
- q Standard interfaces: ISA, PCMCIA
- q RF technology: Spread Spectrum Multiplexing
- q FCC spectrum allocation for unlicensed use
  - q 902-928, 2400-2483, 5725-5850 MHz

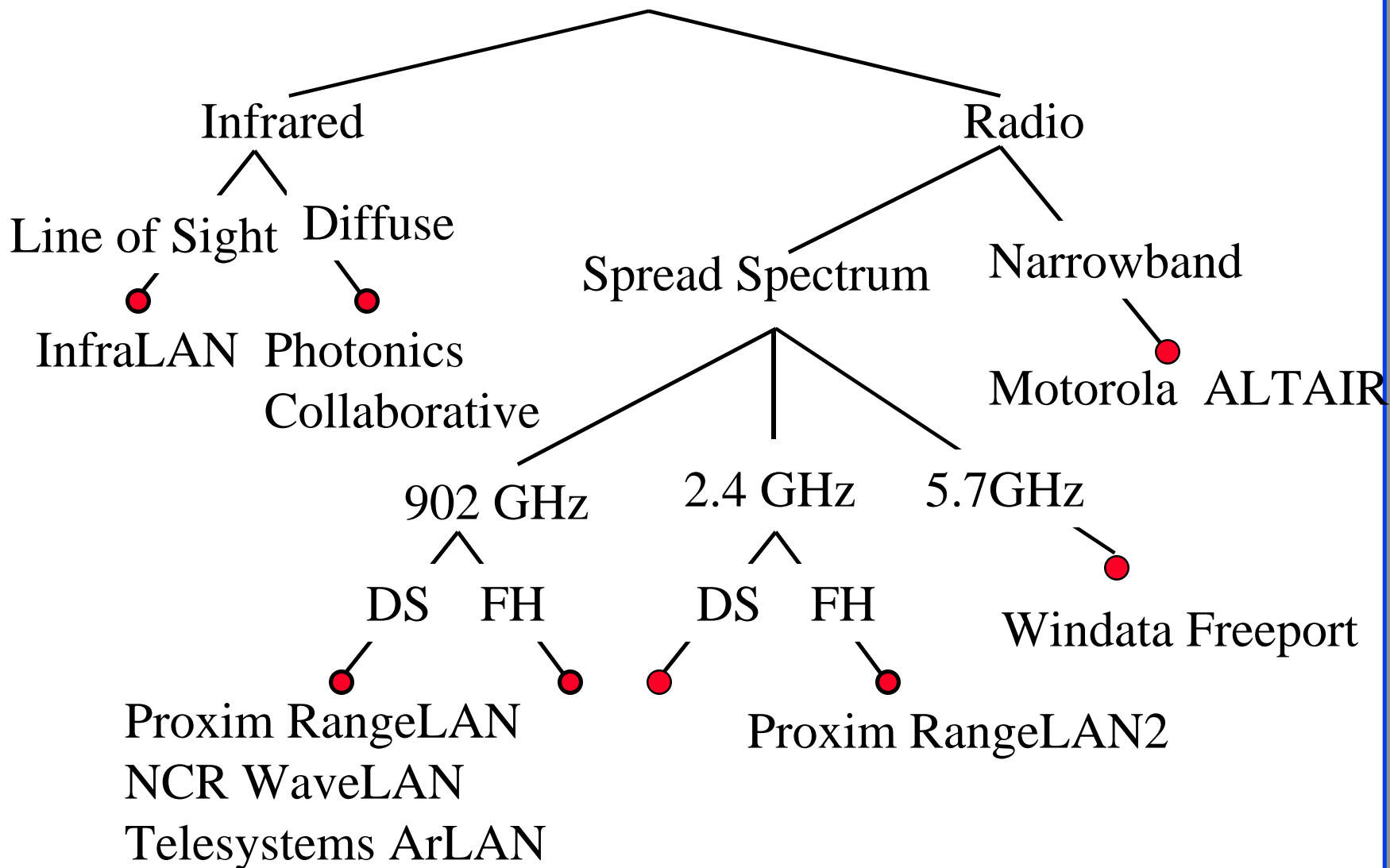
# Wireless LANs



- q IR  $\Rightarrow$  Line of sight, short range, indoors
- q RF  $\Rightarrow$  Need license
- q Spread-Spectrum: Resistance to interference



# Wireless LANs



# Wireless LANs Examples

<b>System</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>Protocol</b>	<b>Remark</b>
<b>Altair Plus II</b>	18 Ghz Microwave	10 Mbps	Ethernet	50 Users/base
<b>RangeLAN</b>	Spread spectrum	242 kbps	Proprietary	Peer-to-peer or server- based
<b>InfraLAN</b>	Infrared	4/16 Mbps	Token ring	6 Users per base, 80'
<b>WaveLAN</b>	Spread Spectrum	2 Mbps	Proprietary	Peer-to-peer

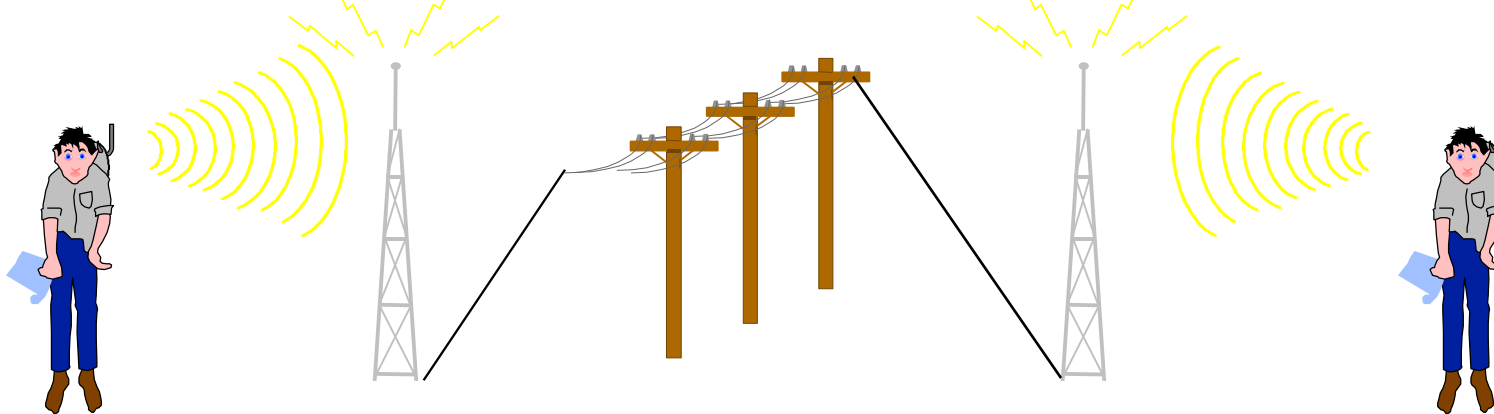
# Wireless LAN (Mobile) Products

Product	Data Rate	Freq- uency	Techno- logy	Range	Access Points
ATT GIS	2 Mbps	900 MHz	DSSS	50 m	Optional
IBM	1 Mbps	2/4 GHz	FHSS	50 m	Required
Proxim	1.6 Mbps	2.4 GHz	FHSS	50 m	Optional
Xircom	1 Mbps	2/4 GHz	FHSS	50 m	Optional
Photonics	1 Mbps	IR	PPM	10 m	Optional
Spectrix	4 Mbps	IR	OOCK	10 m	Required

# Wireless LANs (fixed)

Product	Datarate	Freq- uency	Techno- logy	Range	Access Point
Motorola Altair	10 Mbps	18 GHz	Narrowba nd	15 m	Required
Windata	10 Mbps	2.4, 5.7 GHz	DSSS	25 m	Required
InfraLAN	4, 10, 16 Mbps	IR	OOCK	25 m	Required

# Wireless WAN Services



- q 4.8 kbps to 19.2 kbps nominal
- q Throughput 2 to 8 kbps
- q Wired backbone using leased lines
- q Packetized short transmission
- q Email, stock quotes, weather
- q Options: ARDIS, RAM Mobile Data, Cellular, Cellular Digital Packet Data (CDPD), NWN, and Metricom

# ARDIS

- q Initially designed for IBM's field service use only.
- q Now offered as a service by Motorola and IBM
- q Available nationwide since April 1990. Covers 8000 cities
- q In mid-1993: 1300 base stations connected to 35 radio node controllers connected to 3 message switches
- q Designed for field workers, e.g., UPS uses ARDIS + Cellular
- q Network Control Processors maintain location information in its area
- q 800 MHz. Single licensed channel. Being extended.
- q 4800 bps duplex connections with error correction. 19.2 kbps available at some places.
- q Good in-building access. 2 W power. 6 hours/charge.



# RAM Mobile Data

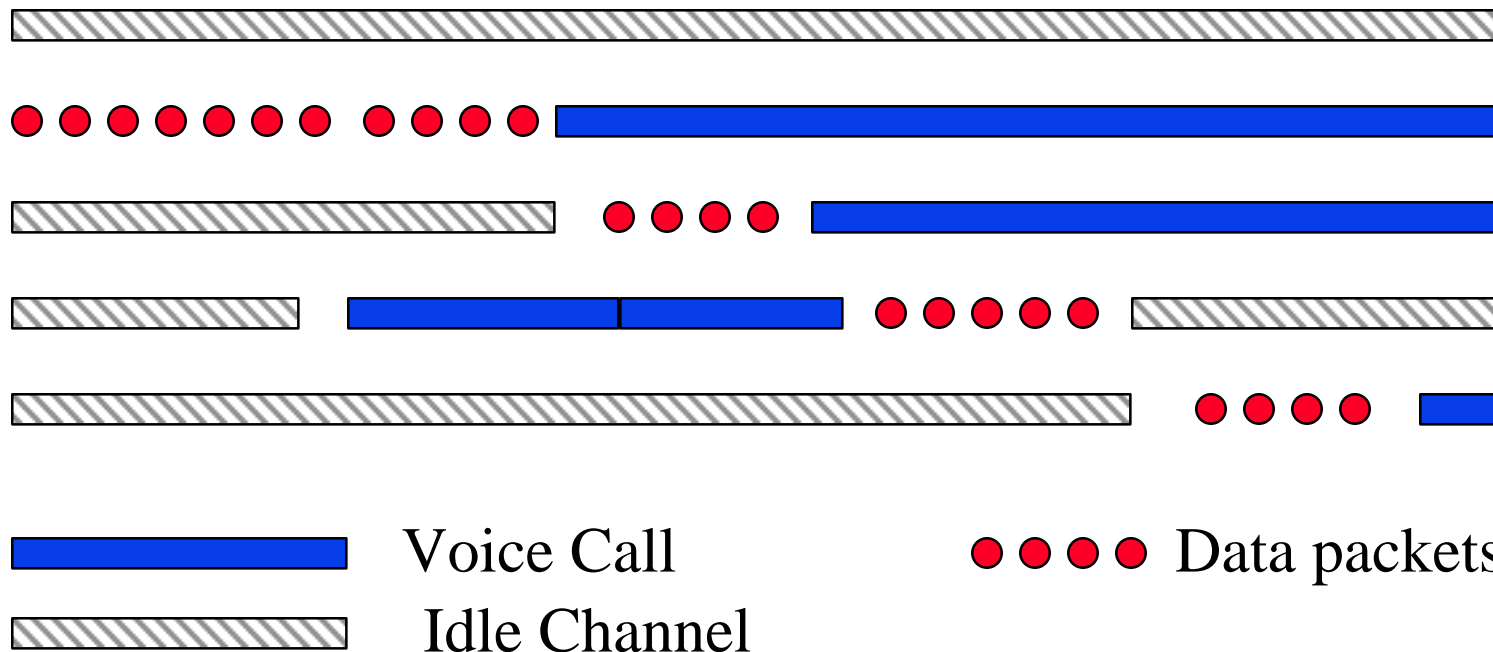
- q Uses Mobitex technology developed by Ericson
- q Adaptation of a specialized mobile radio (SMR) system with 10 to 30 channels per area
- q Operational in Europe. Started December 92 in North America
- q By 1993: 800 base stations covering 100 metropolitan areas or 90% of US population
- q Subscriber access via radio to base station
- q 512 byte packets, per-hop ack
- q Mobile monitors the reception and reregisters
- q 8 kbps interface over 12.5 kHz channels
- q Supports store and forward
- q In-building penetration and roaming

# Data over Cellular

- q US Cellular system is an analog system known as Advanced Mobile Phone System (AMPS) designed for analog voice and not data
- q FDMA, 824-849 MHz Upstream, 869-894 MHz Downstream.
- q Each channel is 30 kHz wide
  - ⇒ Two sets of 333 duplex channels
  - One set for wireline and one for non-wireline carrier
- q Need data-compatible cellular phone, and cellular compatible modem
- q Handover times of 300 ms or longer
  - ⇒ Connections can be broken if you change the location or if another user initiates a call

# Cellular Digital Packet Data (CDPD)

- q Originally named “Celluplan” by IBM
- q Allows data to use idle channels on cellular system
- q Data hops from one channel to next as the channels become busy or idle



# CDPD

- q Backed by 9 major service providers
- q Nationwide cellular packet data service
- q Connectionless and connection-oriented service
  - Connectionless  $\Rightarrow$  No ack, no guarantees
  - Connection-oriented  $\Rightarrow$  reliable delivery, sequencing, flow control
- q Point-to-point and multipoint connections
- q Uses only idle 30 kHz channels in the cellular system
- q Quickly hops-off a channel grabbed by cellular system
  - q **Currently, extra channels dedicated for CDPD**
- q Subscriber unit (SU) registers on power-up and periodically
- q Deregisters before power-down
- q Subscriber unit initiates handoff

# Metricom

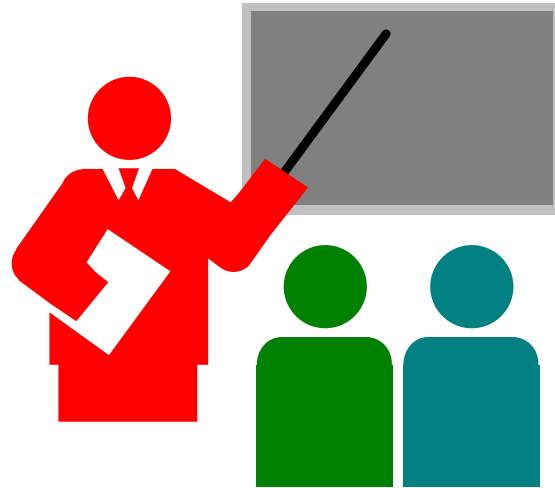
- q Spread-Spectrum in the 902-928 MHz band
- q In-building, campus, and metropolitan area networking
- q Nearby units can communicate directly.
- q If the intended destination is not directly reachable, go via a “node” through the network. Up to 56 kbps.
- q Nodes are cheap (less than \$1000)
- q You can have a campus network of your own with a connection to the Metricom’s metropolitan area network
- q Flat monthly rate based on speed only

Ref: <http://www.metricom.com/richom.html>

# Nationwide Wireless Network (NWN)

- q Being designed by Mtel (owners of SkyTel)
- q Two-way messaging
- q Can acknowledge your page directly using the pager
- q Main issue: Pager's transmit power is limited and much smaller compared to the power of the base
- q Outbound 50 kHz channel similar to SkyPage system  
Uses high powered base transmitters in metropolitan areas
- q Inbound 12.5 kHz: Each base transmitter's area covered by multiple (inexpensive) receivers
- q Awarded a "Pioneer's Preference License" for a 900 MHz frequency

# Summary



- q Multiplexing: TDMA, FDMA, SDMA, CDMA
- q CDMA = Spread spectrum: Frequency hopping or direct sequence
- q LAN Alternatives: Photonics, RangeLan, ALTAIR
- q WAN Alternatives: ARDIS, RAM, Cellular, CDPD, Metricom, NWN

# References: Books

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- q P.T. Davis and C.R. McGuffin, "Wireless Local Area Networks," McGraw-Hill, 1994, 250 pp.
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# References: On-line

- q The WWW Virtual Library: Mobile and Wireless Computing, [http://snapple.cs.washington.edu:600/mobile/mobile\\_www.html](http://snapple.cs.washington.edu:600/mobile/mobile_www.html)
- q Mobile computing, [http://www.yahoo.com/Computers/Mobile\\_Computing/](http://www.yahoo.com/Computers/Mobile_Computing/)
- q Wireless companies, <http://www.yahoo.com/Business/Corporations/Telecommunications/Wireless/>
- q Wireless news group: comp.std.wireless
- q RAM Mobile Data, <http://www.ram.co.uk/>

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# Wireless LAN/WAN Products

- q Adaptec: Airport NIC
- q Aironet Wireless Communications: ArLAN 630, 631, 640 Hubs
- q Alps America: RadioPort Plus, RadioPort/parallel NICs
- q AT&T:
  - q Safari Wireless Mailbox
  - q TransTalk 9000 Wireless Communications System (Switch)
  - q WaveLAN/WavePoint NIC
  - q Wireless Medium Access Controller NIC
  - q Wireless Services Flashpoint (Hand-Held Data Device)
  - q Wireless Subscriber System (Telecom Equipment)

# Wireless LAN/WAN Products (Cont.)

- q Cabletron Systems: Freelink/62 Wireless Ethernet Hub
- q Cincinnati Microwave: MC-Dart 100, PC-Dart 200 Modems
- q Cylink: Airlink Bridge Hub
- q Data Race: Wireless Redidockit NIC
- q Dauphin Technology: DTR-1/GPS/LAN/WAN NICs
- q Dayna Communications:
  - q Daynacomm Roamer PCMCIA/Serial NIC
  - q Network Access Point NIC
- q DEC:
  - q RoamAbout Access Point ISA/PCMCIA NICs
  - q WaveLAN NIC

# Wireless LAN/WAN Products (Cont.)

- q Diablo Research: Mxlink/Mylink modems
- q Digital Ocean: Grouper  
100D/100Lt/100Mp/110Mp/NB/Manta/Starfish NICs
- q Ericsson: M2190 (Wireless Modem)
- q Extended Systems: JetEye NICs
- q Fluke: Wireless Logger (Data Collection Device)
- q Goldmine: Wireless Solution (Remote Access Software)



# Wireless LAN/WAN Products (Cont.)

- q IBM:
  - q AS/400 Wireless LAN
  - q Infrared NICs
  - q Thinkpad Wireless fax modem
  - q Wireless LAN Entry
  - q Wireless modems for ARDIS/Cellular/CDPD/Mobitex
  - q Wireless RF LANs
- q Intel: Wireless modem
- q K&M Electronics: Airplex wireless fax modem jack
- q Kantek Spectrum: 3-D Wireless Ringmouse (Mouse)
- q Travelling Software: LapLink Wireless (file transfer S/W)

# Wireless LAN/WAN Products (Cont.)

- q Laser Communications:
  - q InfraLAN NIC
  - q Omnibeam 4000 Network
  - q LXE 5420/5460 wireless modems
  - q LXE RF ID NIC
- q Merritt Computer Products: Cordless printer sharing kit
- q Metricom: Ricochet wireless modem
- q Momentum Microsystems: PC-Linx NIC

# Wireless LAN/WAN Products (Cont.)

- q Motorola:
  - q ALTAIR Plus wireless Ethernet NIC
  - q ALTAIR wireless Ethernet NIC
  - q Collect 14.4 PCMCIA (wireless fax modem)
  - q Envoy Wireless Communicator (PDA)
  - q Infotac Two-Way Messenger (wireless modem)
  - q Wireless In-Building Network
- q NEC: Wireless PBX
- q Northgate Computer Systems: Wireless LAN
- q Notable Technologies: Airnote wireless modem
- q O'Neill Communications: Local Area Wireless Network

# Wireless LAN/WAN Products (Cont.)

- q Olivetti: Wireless LAN
- q Persoft: Intersect Remote Bridge
- q Photonics Collaborative: Wireless LAN/WAN System
- q Proxim:
  - q Proxlink NIC
  - q RangeLan/RangeLAN2 ISA/PCMCIA LANs
  - q RangeLink bridge/router
- q Radlinq: WL-4000/5000/6000 wireless routers
- q RDC Communications: PortLAN modem
- q Sierra Wireless: PocketPlus (wireless fax modem)
- q Silcom Manufacturing Technology: FreeSpace NIC

# Wireless LAN/WAN Products (Cont.)

- q SkyTel: Skycard NIC
- q Socket Communications: Pagecard wireless messaging system
- q Solectek: Airlan Parallel/PCMCIA LAN/CAN NIC/bridge
- q Spectrix: SpectrixLite NIC
- q Spreadnet: Wireless Link (WAN Adapter)
- q Telesystems: SLQ ArLAN 680 NIC
- q Toshiba: Wireless Portable Workgroup (Pre-Packaged LAN)
- q Triquint Semiconductor: TQ9205/TQ9206 NIC
- q U.S. Robotics: Worldport dual standard PCMCIA (wireless modem)

# Wireless LAN/WAN Products (Cont.)

- q U.S. Wireless: Data POS-50 (point-of-sale terminal)
- q USEMCO Technologies: Mobile Trader (wireless modem)
- q Windata:
  - q Airport I/II (wireless LAN systems)
  - q Airport Wireless Interbuilding Systems (pre-packaged LAN)
  - q Freeport wireless hub/LAN/transceivers
- q Xircom: NetWave NICs
- q Zenith Data Systems: CruiseLan ISA/PCMCIA NICs/bridges/routers
- q Zyxel USA: U-1496P portable cellular fax Modem