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Technology Shaping the Future

IoT in the 5G and MEC era

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... let's dig into the acronyms



Source: xkcd





Source: IERC

IoT & adjacent domains





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- ► 5th generation of mobile networks
 - Evolution of today's 4G LTE network, higher speed, lower latency, better connectivity
- Use Cases / Profiles
 - Enhanced Mobile Broadband (eMBB): 10-20 Gbps peak data rates, 10000x more traffic, macro/small cell support, 500 Kmph mobility support, 100x energy savings
 - Ultra-Reliable Low Latency Communications (URLLC): <1ms air latency, 5ms e2e latency (UE ↔ gNB), six nines availability (99.9999%), 50kbps-10Mbps data rates
 - Massive Machine Type Communications (mMTC): 1 million devices / km², long range, 1-100 kbps data rates, 10 years battery life

Radio Access Network

- Small cells, 5G macro cells ('massive' MIMO antennas, >100 elements, elevation/azimuth beamforming)
- Core Network
 - Service Based Architecture (SBA), software-defined network (SDN), network function virtualization (NFV), network slicing







5G New Radio (NR)



- Radio access technology (RAT) includes two frequency ranges: FR1 (<6 GHz) and FR2 (24 100 GHz)</p>
- Utilizes OFDM (orthogonal frequency-division multiplexing), also used by both LTE and IEEE 802.11 (Wi-Fi)
- Non-standalone (NSA; 4G for control data and 5G for user data) vs Standalone (SA; fully 5G)

But: IoT \rightarrow lower power and wider coverage comms \rightarrow LPWAN options such as SigFox, LoRa, and Weightless

- LTE IoT (part of the LTE Advanced Pro platform)
 - two narrowband technologies: LTE-M and NB-IoT, targeting complementary use cases
 - LTE-M: 1.4 MHz (Cat-M1) and 5 MHz (Cat-M2) bandwidth, offers relatively higher throughput, lower latency, connected mode mobility, better positioning and voice connections
 - **NB-IoT:** 200kHz bandwidth, eliminates the need for a gateway, targeting very low throughput and delay tolerant applications, offers extreme coverage
 - 3GPP Release 15: supports a close coexistence between NR, LTE-M and NB-IoT







Multi-Access (Mobile) Edge Computing

- Critical bridge between 5G networks and Cloud Computing infrastructure
- By placing compute and storage resources in the Radio Access Network (RAN), mobile network operators can optimize the delivery of latency-sensitive content and services to their users
 - host not only network-level virtualized functions (VNFs),
 - but also application-level virtualized functions (app-level VNFs, or VAFs(?))
- **ETSI ISG MEC** defines how to integrate MEC architecture with 3GPP's 5G specifications
- MEC deployment scenarios
 - MEC + local UPF \rightarrow collocated at the Base Station
 - MEC + possibly local UPF \rightarrow collocated at a transmission node
 - MEC + local UPF → collocated at a network aggregation point
 - MEC → collocated with the Core Network functions (at the same data center)



Techs and concepts in 5G - Overview







... so, what's next? (our vision)

IoT Slicing (I)



- Motivation: Benefit from the virtualization technologies in 5G and MEC
 - decrease the digital footprint by virtualizing (parts of) the IoT gateways
 - enable sharing of physical infrastructure, following the network slicing concept
- Approach: offer IoT gateway (IoT GW) functionality as a VNF
 - allow for mediated access to IoT devices
 - reduce IoT market entry barriers
 - enable IoT data marketplaces
 - create new revenue streams



IoT Slicing (II)



- How: Split IoT gateway functionality into two parts
 - Host IoT GW (lightweight physical device)
 - interfaces with IoT devices
 - performs device management and access mediation
 - Guest IoT GW (virtualized; one per slice)
 - performs data-related activities (semantics,)

Option 1

- Assign different physical IoT gateways to different slices
- IoT solution provider owns the devices and IoT gateways; asks only for communication services from CSP
- 1-1 mapping of devices to slices, silo-like operation

Option 2

- Share common infrastructure among stakeholders
- Slicing offers virtual isolation



MEC: Contextual awareness



ETSI ISG MEC loosely defines *location service*

- Collect, process and provide geo-location and network location info to verticals
- Examples
 - Support for **location-based services** by identifying set of user devices in a certain area
 - Support for service continuity in mobile video streaming scenarios
- Can provide additional information on
 - Radio resource availability
 - Bandwidth availability

MEC: Edge BaaS/FaaS



- Backend-as-a-Service, Function-as-a-Service
- Integrated Edge Computing platform
 - Simplify the establishment, management, control and monitoring of services running at the edge
 - Offer new functions, modules and use existing ones → broader service function chains
 - Interconnect service function chain components with
 - locally available devices, i.e., for data processing, and
 - remote chain elements. i.e., centralized cloud-based backend systems
- Enable Intelligence at the Edge
 - Cascading analytics, collective/collaborative intelligence
- Example domain: (Industrial) Internet of Things
 - Device management, data collection, data processing



MEC: Cross-slice communications



- Within the BaaS/FaaS @ Edge context
- Establish cross-slice/tenant interactions
 - Facilitate secure and optimized communication between next gen services
 - Across network slice borders in 5G networks
- Allows for B2B interactions between vertical application operators
 - Produce and consume services from each other
- Involves discovery, placement, communication establishment and management application of cross-slice operations
 - Considering low latency, isolation and security requirements
- Examples
 - Different IoT platforms want to exchange data when collocated deployments are involved
 - AR-enabled touristic guide can integrate feed from social networking service



The European landscape

IoT and 5G research activities





Industrial bodies – Coordination activities



- The Private parts in the Public Private Partnership (PPP)
 - shape Strategic Research Innovation Agendas and roadmaps
 - offer consultation, recommendations and support to EC and member states

Alliance for Internet of Things Innovation (AIOTI)

• https://aioti.eu/

5G Infrastructure Association (5GIA)

• https://5g-ia.eu/

Convergence of IoT and 5G

- On Mar 25, 2019, 5GIA and AIOTI published a joint vision paper
- On Oct 1, 2019, 5GIA and AIOTI published a common topics document for a common SRIA





About us

In brief





International Presence







Core Offerings – Markets Served



Core Offerings Wireless Access **Telco Software ICT Services &** Energy **Smart City Solutions** Solutions & Transmission Solutions Intracom Telecom has been Intracom Telecom strategically Intracom Telecom Intracom Telecom products building and enriching a wide focuses on the delivery and employ the most advanced fielddesigns, installs and portfolio of advanced telco operation of top-notch services for commissions energyproven technologies achieving and exceeding the level of software solutions, enabling converged networking and cloud related systems, computing solutions. The company providing Smart Grids Operators to generate new performance required by the modern applications for wireless revenues and boost their also offers a range or Smart City and Energy Management Customers' Experience. solutions. solutions. access and backhaul. Markets Served ▦ Telecom Utility Healthcare Public Large **Authorities** Operators Companies Enterprises Institutions

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R&D and Production





- Vertical organization from idea-tomarket capability
- Own Production Facilities
- Research labs with state-of-the-art infrastructure, for design, rapid prototyping and validation of advanced telecom products:
 - Microelectronics
 - DSP & System Modeling
 - Microwave & mmWave design
 - Embedded Software & NMS development
 - Sophisticated mechanical design
 - Big Data Analytics & SDN/NFV

- Continuous R&D presence in EU research frameworks
 - Strong participation in EU 5G networks flagship initiative
 - Focus areas:
 - SDN/NFV
 - Advanced Wireless Network infrastructure
 - Intelligent Network Management
 - Information-Centric Networking
 - Internet of Things
 - Smart Grids
 - Big Data
 - e-Health

Our IoT Portfolio at a glance





- Vertical specific e2e solutions with selected partners
- Horizontal IoT enablement & monetization
 - Unified IoT services Orchestration Platform as a Service
 - IoT Revenue and Partner management
 - Domain specific Analytics
- Connectivity/Network: Planning and configuration
- Professional Services: Consultancy, Development, Implementation, Ongoing Support
- Managed services and Cloud hosting
- Own and 3d party products in e2e solutions strong integration & project delivery capabilities

A comprehensive approach to Smart City





Our research activities in 5G/MEC





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