





Received 13 December 2022; revised 6 February 2023; accepted 13 March 2023. Date of publication 20 March 2023; date of current version 28 March 2023.

Digital Object Identifier 10.1109/OJCOMS.2023.3257889

Toward Greener 5G and Beyond Radio Access Networks—A Survey

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This work was supported by the Innovation Fund Denmark under Grant 1045-00047B.

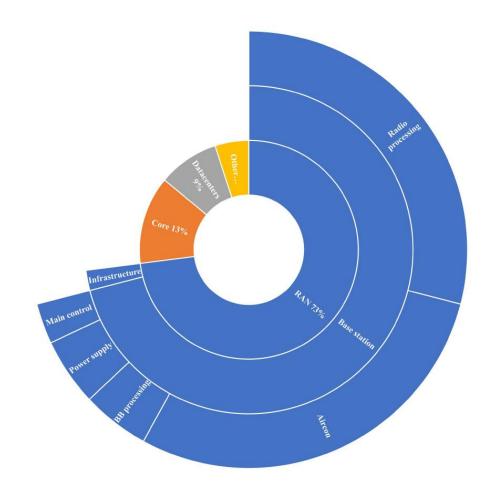








Energy consumption in Mobile Networks



Numbers from NGMN whitepaper:

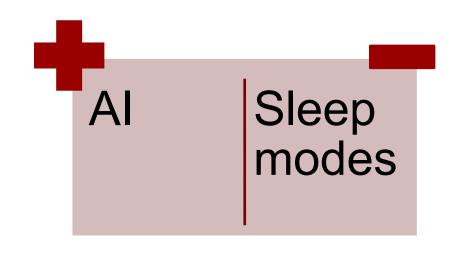
"Green future networks: Network energy efficiency"

- Published in The Open Journal of the Communications Society (OJCOMS)
- Motivation: To illustrate the overall impact of energy reductions in different parts of the network.
 - Example: How much will 10% decrease in BB processing reduce the energy consumption of mobile networks
- · Main areas covered
 - Architectures (vRAN, C-RAN, O-RAN)
 - Technologies (improvements in 4G/5G, opportunities in 6G)
 - Sharing the network (roaming, MOCN, MORAN, slicing)
- MNO perspective
 - Customer Experience (CEX)
 - CEX compared to energy savings

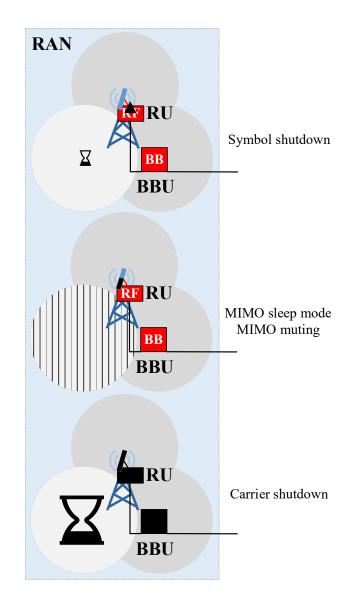


Technology evolution and improvements

- Power amplifier improvements
- Increased spectral efficiency
- Reduced signalling
- Sleep Modes
- Network virtualisation
- Al



Impact on CEX

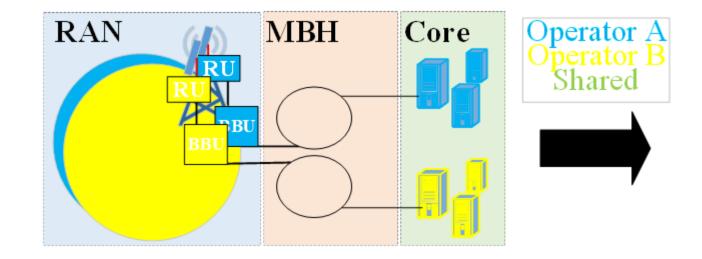


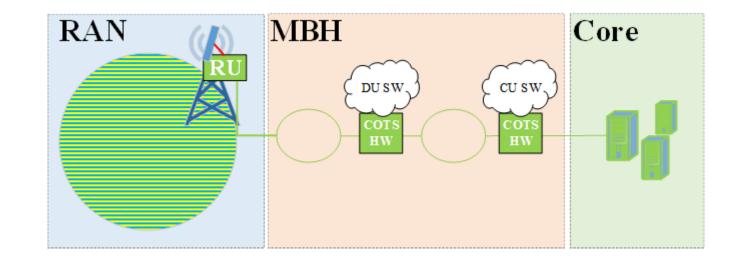


Network architecture optimization – sharing the resources

- Network Architecture
 - C-RAN
 - vRAN
 - O-RAN

- Network Sharing
 - Multi-Operator Core Network (MOCN),
 - Multi-Operator RAN (MORAN)
 - Network Slicing



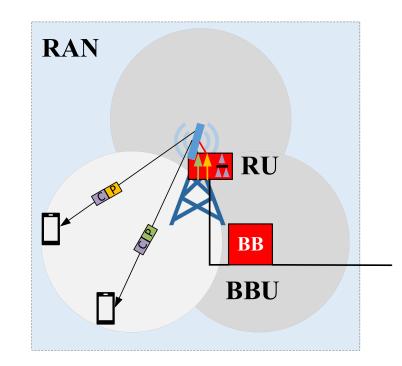


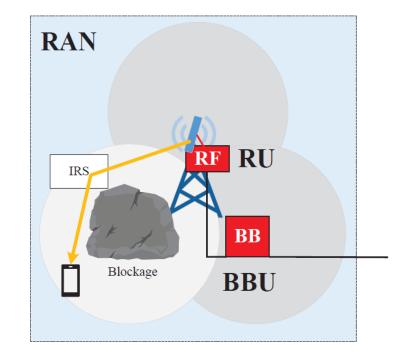


Research directions towards green 6G

Examples of directions for 6G energy reductions

- Zero touch networks
 - Taking AI to the extreme
- Rate Splitting
 - Multiple acces with minimised interference
- Intelligent reflecting surfaces
 - Passive beamsteering
- Sampling
 - Compressive sensing

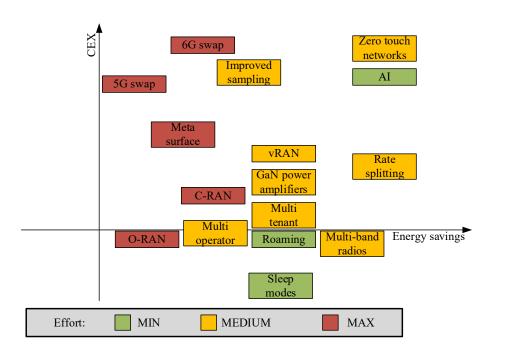






Survey summary

RAN component	Architecture	Technology	Total	Share of Mobile Network Energy Consumption Saving
Main control	20%	2%	22%	1%
Baseband processing	40%	2%	42%	2%
Power supply	10%	2%	12%	0.5%
Air condition	50%	2%	52%	15%
Radio processing	25%	32%	57%	16.5%



Short term improvements

- Sleep modes
- Al predictions to optimise sleep mode
- Periodical roaming

When equipment is exchanged or new deployed

- Multi-band RUs
- GaN amplifiers

Future possibilities

- Cloud-RAN
- Open RAN/vRAN
- Network sharing

Potential 30% savings

Green energy sources, waste heat and?



Thank you for your attention

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September 2023 | University of Oxford