Cognitive Radio: Fundamentals and Opportunities.

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Cognitive Radio: Fundamentals and Opportunities

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Outline

1. Software-defined radio (SDR)
   a) Black-box approach
   b) Components and attributes (Mitola)

2. Cognitive radio (CR)
   a) Definition and overview (Mitola)
   b) CR features (FCC)

3. Unlicensed TV spectrum usage and WRANs

4. Digital channel detection in the 915 MHz ISM band (demo)

5. Opportunities and technical challenges
1. SDR: The black box approach

**Software-defined radio (SDR) idea** [1]:
Specify input/output signals at the boundaries of a subsystem, and not the internal components.

**Improved security/reliability:**
Specification on components replaced by **functionality**
Programmability is not only possible but essential
Software radio components [1]

- Multibeam antenna array
- Multiband RF conversion
- Wideband ADC and DAC
- IF/ channel select processing
- Modulation/Demodulation
- Bitstream processing
- Environment characterization
- Control
- Over-the-air delivery
- Adaptation:
  - SNR/BER
  - Interference
  - Band/mode selection
A Basic Cognitive Cycle [2]

RF environment

Action:
Transmitted signal

Available Spectrum
Noise floor
Traffic statistics

Radio-scene analysis

Interference

Channel estimation
Predictive modeling

Quantized channel capacity

Transmit power control
Spectrum management

RF stimuli
(sensing)

TRANSMITTER

RECEIVER
# SDR component attributes [1]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Functional component</th>
<th>Attributes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Source coding/decoding</td>
<td>Audio, video and data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service/network</td>
<td>Multiplexing, services and networking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information security</td>
<td>Transmission security, authentication, non-repudiation, privacy, data integrity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Channel coding/decoding</td>
<td>Bit error rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modulation/demodulation</td>
<td>Baseband modem, timing and carrier recovery, equalization, waveforms</td>
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<tr>
<td>IF processing</td>
<td>Beamforming, diversity combining, spatial multiplexing, channel estimation</td>
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<td>RF access</td>
<td>Antenna, diversity/MIMO, RF conversion</td>
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<td>Channel sets</td>
<td>Simultaneity, multiband propagation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multiple personalities</td>
<td>Multiband, multimode, agile services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint control</td>
<td>Source/channel, QoS vs, load, integration</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2. Cognitive radio definition (Mitola)

“A radio frequency transceiver designed to intelligently detect whether a particular segment of the radio spectrum is in use, and to jump into (and out of) the temporarily unused spectrum very rapidly, without interfering with the transmission of other authorized users.” [3]

Cognitive Radio Overview [3]

Software Radio

Programmable Processor(s) → Wideband A/D-D/A → Wideband RF Conversion

- LVHF
- VHF-UHF
- Cellular
- PCS
- Indoor & RF LAN
- VHFR

2 MHz 28 88 400 960 MHz 1.39 GHz 2.5 5.9 6 34 GHz

Fixed Terrestrial
Cellular Mobile
Public Safety

Software Radios
- Very Low Band
- Low
- Mid Band
- High Band

4 Channels

RKRL Frames ↔ Model-Based Reasoning

Software architecture

- Antenna → RF → Modem
- User Interface → Baseband → INFOSEC

Spatial & Temporal Knowledge

- **Frequency Agility** - the ability of a radio to change its operating frequency to optimize use under certain conditions

- **Dynamic Frequency Selection (DFS)** – the ability to sense signals from other nearby transmitters in an effort to choose an optimum operating environment
Cognitive radio features – FCC (cont.)

- **Location Awareness** - the ability for a device to determine its location and the location of other transmitters, and first determine whether it is permissible to transmit at all, then to select the appropriate operating parameters such as the power and frequency allowed at its location.

- **Negotiated Use** - a cognitive radio could incorporate a mechanism that would enable sharing of spectrum under the terms of a prearranged agreement between a licensee and a third party (lessee).
Cognitive radio features – FCC (cont.)

- **Adaptive Modulation** – the ability to modify transmission characteristics and waveforms to exploit opportunities to use spectrum

- **Transmit Power Control (TPC)** – to permit transmission at full power limits when necessary, but constrain the transmitter power to a lower level to allow greater sharing of spectrum when higher power operation is not necessary
3. Unlicensed TV spectrum [5]

- Use unused channels in the VHF (54-88 MHz, 174-216 MHz) and UHF (470-638 MHz) analog TV bands (“white space”) in certain areas
- Greater range than WiFi/WiMax in rural areas
- FCC proposed three possible approaches:
  - Passive sensing: Listen-before-talk
  - GPS plus database to determine free frequencies
  - Separate beacon transmitters indicating unavailable spectrum
- Related specification: 802.22 WRAN
802.22 WRAN (regional) [6]

- **Adaptive modulation**: Typical spectrum capacity is 3 bits/sec*Hz (e.g., 64-QAM with $\frac{3}{4}$ code rate)
- **OFDM type modulation** to counter increased multipath due to less directional antennas at VHF and low UHF (e.g., 1000 carriers to cover a range of 0.16 μsec to up to 33 μsec) (8000 carriers if on-channel repeaters are needed?)
- **OFDMA on return link** allows scaling of the user terminal transmit power to the transmitted data rate
4. Digital channel detection in the 915 MHz ISM band (demo)

- ** LOW IF DIGITAL SELECTION **

- ** CHANNEL FILTER **
  - $f_c = 915$ MHz
  - $B = 26$ MHz

- ** LNA **

- ** MIXER **

- ** AMP **

- ** ADC **
  - $f_s = 120$ Ms/s

- ** LOWPASS FILTER **
  - $B = 33$ MHz

- ** SYNTHESIZER AND VCO **
  - $f_c = 895$ MHz

- ** DSP/FPGA **
  - $f_1 = 8.5$ MHz
  - $f_2 = 12$ MHz

** CHANNEL FILTER **
  - $W_1 = 0.143$
  - $W_2 = 0.2$
Matlab demo …

Three ISM channels
QPSK modulation
2 Mbps each
5. Opportunities

• With cognitive radio technology, the “best” hardware does not necessarily win
• **Functionality and flexibility** are premium
• Do your wireless communications coursework
• Small companies can compete
• In principle, any format of signal is valid, as long as interference power levels are respected
• …
Technical challenges

- Programmable multirate baseband architectures
- Wide, multiple and flexible RF front-ends
- High-performance and flexible ADC/DAC
- Dynamic signal processing
  - Spectrum sensing, channel estimation, MIMO, modulation and coding, spectrum shaping, transmit power control, interference avoidance
- Cognitive wireless network etiquette
  - Sense, discover, negotiate, transfer, ...
References


[4] *FCC Docket 05-57*


