

A closer look at 5G Advanced Release 18

Wireless innovations to supercharge the path toward intelligent computing everywhere

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- Where are we on the 5G journey?
- What's in 5G Advanced Release 18 and what are our key innovations?
- How does 5G Advanced fit into our 6G vision?
- 4 Questions?

Mobile has made a leap every ~10 years





Services available globally

310+

Operators in 118 countries/territories deployed 5G services 153 +

Operators in 71 countries/territories deployed 5G FWA

124 +

Operators deployed or investing in 5G Standalone (SA)

585+

Operators in 175 countries/territories investing in 5G

2.1B

5G smartphones shipped globally



Where are we in the cellular innovation cycle?

5 G



VISION

Identify a problem or need;

establish requirements

INVENTION

Invent new technologies and e2e system architecture

TRIALS

Collaborate on OTA field trials that track 3GPP standardization and drive ecosystem towards rapid commercialization

PROOF-OF-CONCEPT

Deliver end-to-end prototypes

Leading the 5G Advanced evolution toward 6G



Our advanced innovations lead the path to 6G

FOUNDATIONAL QUALCOMM INNOVATIONS LEAD ALL 3GPP RELEASES





Release 18+

What's in 3GPP Release 18?



Mobile broadband evolution and further vertical expansion

Deliver enhanced mobile broadband experiences and extend 5G's reach into new use cases



Immediate commercial needs and longer-term 5G vision

Drive new value in commercialization efforts and fully realize 5G's potential with future deployments



New and enhanced devices and network evolution

Focus on the end-to-end technology evolution of the 5G system to bring new levels of performance

Strengthen the end-to-end 5G system foundation



Advanced **DL/UL MIMO**



Enhanced mobility



Mobile IAB, network-controlled repeater



Evolved duplexing



AI/ML data-driven designs

Green networks and devices





Expanded

sidelink

Boundless

extended reality

Drones & expanded satellites comm.



RedCap evolution

Expanded positioning



Multicast & other enhancements



Proliferate 5G to virtually

all devices and use cases



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3GPP RELEASE 18

Strengthen the end-to-end 5G system foundation





Continued 5G MIMO evolution to improve performance and efficiency

Source: RP-223276 (MIMO Evolution for Downlink and Uplink) 1 Channel State Information; 2 CSI Reference Signal; Transmission Configuration Indicator; 4 Multiple transmission and reception points; 5 Demodulation Reference Signal; 6 Cyclic prefix orthogonal frequency division multiplexing; 7 Joint Transmission; 8 Customer Premises Equipment; 9 Fixed Wireless Access; 9 Timing advance; 10 Downlink control information

Release 18 Work Item

Enhanced CSI¹ & CSI-RS² in high or medium velocities to exploit time-domain correlation for sub-7 GHz

Extending Rel-17 unified TCI³ framework for multiple DL/UL TCI states focusing on multi-TRP⁴

Supporting larger number of orthogonal DMRS⁵ ports for DL/UL multi-user MIMO for CP-OFDM⁶ Supporting coherent-JT⁷ for up to 4 TRPs, assuming ideal backhaul and synchronization in sub-7 GHz

Supporting 4+ Tx UL operations for 4+ layers per device targeting CPE⁸, FWA⁹, vehicle, industrial devices

Facilitating simultaneous multipanel UL for mmWave and multi-TRP, targeting CPE, FWA, vehicle, industrial devices

Specifying asynchronous multi-TRP support including 2 TA⁹ for UL multi-DCI¹⁰ and power control for UL single-DCI



Driving additional 5G uplink coverage enhancements



Uplink coverage enhancements Release 18 Work Item

Source: in RP-221858 (Further NR coverage enhancements)

1 Physical Random Access Channel; 2 Random Access Channel; 3 Carrier aggregation; 4 Dual connectivity; 5 Maximum power reduction; 6 Peak-to-average power ratio; 7 Discrete Fourier Transform Spread Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplexing; 8 Cyclic-Prefix Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplexing. **Random access enhancements** for multiple PRACH¹ transmissions with same beam for 4-step RACH², targeting mmWave as well as sub-7 GHz

Power domain enhancements with increased device power limit for CA³/DC⁴ and reduced MPR⁵/PAR⁶ via spectrum shaping without spectrum extension

Dynamic waveform switching enhancements for DFT-S-OFDM⁷ and CP-OFDM⁸



Further optimizing 5G device mobility management



For operations in both sub-7 GHz and mmWave bands

5G NR Release 18 Work Item to address different deployment configurations

Source: RP-233970 (Further NR Mobility Enhancements)

1 Central unit; 2 Master node; 3 New Radio dual connectivity; 4 Primary Cell of Secondary Cell Group; 5 Secondary Cell Group; 6 Master Cell Group; 7 Secondary Cell

Layer 1 / 2 based inter-cell mobility

Dynamic switching among multiple candidate cells, enhanced L1 inter-cell beam management (e.g., L1 measurement reporting / beam indication), only intra-CU¹ scenario considered in Rel-18. Supported in MCG and in SCG without MN² involvement.

NR-DC³ with selective activation of cell groups via L3 enhancements

Conditional PSCell⁴ addition and change among multiple candidate SCGs. One SCG⁵ active at a time

Conditional handover (CHO) enhancements

Conditional handover with candidate SCGs. Backhaul data forwarding optimizations for CHO including target MCG⁶ and target SCG in NR-DC

mmWave enhancements

Improve SCell⁷/SCG setup delay by reusing IDLE/INACTIVE mode measurement results; device validity check for IDLE/INACTIVE mode measurements

Cost-efficient expansion of 5G coverage and capacity

Release 18 Work Item on new 5G deployment topologies

Mobile integrated access and backhaul (IAB)

To enable mobility for IAB nodes, e.g., mounted on vehicles for enhanced 5G coverage and capacity



Define procedures for migration/topology adaptation to enable mobility, including inter-donor migration of entire node

Enhance mobility of an IAB together with its served devices

Mitigate interference due to IAB mobility (e.g., avoid potential reference and control signal collisions)

Maintain ability to serve legacy devices, optimizations can entail Release 18 backward compatible device enhancements

Network-controlled repeaters (NCR)

To support single-hop operation that is that is transparent to the devices for enhanced coverage



Specify signaling and behavior of side control information including beamforming, TDD configuration, and on/off setting

Define control plane signaling and procedures for side control information indication

Support solutions for NCR management (e.g., identification and authorization)

Specify RF, EMC and RRM requirements

5G Advanced introduces new network energy saving techniques



Release 18 Work Item



Low-power mode

Align cell DTX/DRX¹ and device DRX in connected mode as well as inter-node information exchange to enable network energy savings in non-active time

Power adaptation

Enhance CSI²-related procedures (e.g., signaling, measurement/report) to enable efficient adaptation to larger device power offsets between PDSCH³ & CSI-RS

Spatial adaptation

Enhance CSI & beam management (e.g., signaling, measurement/report) to enable efficient adaptation to number of antenna ports, active transceiver chains, and others

Mobility management

Improve beam management during paging and conditional handover procedures and in case source/target cell is in network energy savings mode



Legacy device support

Prevent legacy devices camping on cells that support network energy saving techniques

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Carrier aggregation

Support SSB-less SCell⁴ operation for inter-band carrier aggregation for sub-7 GHz and co-located cells

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Testing requirements

Specify requirements to support network energy savings (e.g., RRM⁵/RF core, RRM performance, demodulation performance, base station conformance)

Source: RP-230566 (Network energy savings for NR)

1 Discontinued transmit / receive; 2 Channel state information; 3 Physical downlink shared channel; 4 Secondary cell; 5 Radio resource management

Toward a greener end-to-end communications system





Optimize network energy efficiency in the RAN, specially in the base station



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Implement device-only techniques that focuses on device energy savings

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Explore end-to-end energy saving opportunities including foundational air-interface technologies that take into consideration traffic load in the network and device support/feedback

Opportunities to minimize environment impact — achieving reduced network operation cost expenditure and extended device battery life

Release 18 studies low-power wake-up signal / receiver (WUS/WUR)

Evaluate power saving schemes that do not require existing signals to be used as WUS for power-sensitive, small form-factor devices



Identify evaluation methodology for lowpower WUS/WUR for lower complexity IoT devices (e.g., RedCap)



Study and evaluate lowpower wake-up receiver architectures



Evaluate wake-up signal designs to support wake-up receivers

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Determine L1 procedures and higher layer protocol changes to support the wake-up signals



Evaluate device power saving gains and latency, coverage impact compared to the existing power saving techniques

Laying the foundation for the future of full duplex communications



DOWNLINK	DOWNLINK	DOWNLINK	DOWNLINK
UPLINK	UPLINK	UPLINK	UPLINK
DOWNLINK	DOWNLINK	DOWNLINK	DOWNLINK
Total Bandwidth (e.g., 40 MHz x2 DL, 20 MHz UL)			



Summarize regulatory aspects and network energy impacts pertaining to duplex operations



Identify applicable and relevant deployment scenarios and use cases

Study subband non-overlapping full duplex and potential enhancements on dynamic TDD¹



Develop evaluation methodology for duplex enhancement

Study inter-base station/device CLI² management and impact on RF considering adjacent-channel coexistence with legacy operation

Applying AI to solve difficult wireless challenges

Deep wireless domain knowledge is required to optimally use AI capabilities



Release 18 Study Item scope



AI/ML-enabled air interface design



Use cases

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framework

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AI/ML model and

Channel feedback (spatial/frequency-domain CSI compression¹ using two-sided model or in time-domain using single-sided AI model)

Defining stages, collaboration

levels, life cycle management,

validation, testing, inference

and datasets for training,

Impact assessment

Physical layer (e.g., lifecycle management, signaling for training/validation, assistance info, protocols (e.g., capability

indication), and interoperability/testability

Beam management (spatial/temporal-domain beam prediction).

Positioning accuracy (direct Al or Al-assisted positioning)



Evaluation methodology

Existing 3GPP framework and field data to assess performance and identify KPIs

AI/ML framework for next-gen RAN



Network optimization

Data collection enhancements and signaling support for network energy saving, load balancing, mobility optimization



Future study

New use cases (e.g., AI/ML for slicing, QoE²), network functionality and interface procedures

Source: RP-221348 (AI/ML for NR Air Interface); RP-233441 (AI/ML for NG-RAN) 1 Channel State Information; 2 Quality of Experience





Enable NR PDCCH² reception in symbols with LTE CRS³ and allow two overlapping CRS rate matching patterns with/without multiple TRPs⁴

Multi-carrier enhancements

Define multi-cell PUSCH⁵ / PDSCH⁶ scheduling with single DCI⁷ and UL Tx switching across 3 or 4 bands with simultaneous 2 Tx in sub-7 GHz

Enhanced multi-SIM⁸

Enhance simultaneous network connections and switching (e.g., collision handling, gap coordination, temporary capability restriction)

In-device coexistence

Improve interference management in FDM⁹ (i.e., more granular indication) and in TDM¹⁰ (i.e., preferred pattern indication), with LTE baseline

Small data transmission

Support mobile-terminated small data transmissions in inactive state for e.g., enhanced paging



Source: RP-221622 (DSS); RP-222251 (Multi-carrier); RP-233071 (MUSIM); RP-233485 (IDC); RP-234010 (Small data transmission); RP-233438 (SON/MDT); RP-223488 (QoE); RP-232863 (Timing resiliency and URLLC)

1 Dynamic Spectrum Sharing; 2 Physical downlink control channel; 3 Cell-specific reference signal; 4 Transmission / reception points; 5 Physical uplink control channel; 6 Physical downlink control channel; 7 Downlink control information; 8 Subscriber Identity Module; 9 Frequency Division Multiplexing; 10 Time Division Multiplexing; 11 Self Organizing Network/Minimization of Drive Test; 12 Mobility robustness optimization; 13 Multi-RAT dual connectivity; 14 Secondary cell group; 15 Inter radio access technology; 16 Quality of Experience; 17 NR dual connectivity; 18 Non public network; 19 Radio access network; 20 Quadrature amplitude modulation; 21 Carrier aggregation; 22 Bandwidth part



3GPP RELEASE 18

Proliferate 5G to virtually all devices and use cases



Further improving XR experience with 5G Advanced

XR traffic awareness

Support additional buffer size table to reduce quantization errors, device reporting of uplink assistance info., congestion signaling, and others

Enhanced device power saving

Support non-integer DRX¹ periodicities to match frame rates (e.g., 15, 30, 45, 60, 72, 90, 120 fps) and CG² without uplink retransmissions Release 18 Work Item

System capacity improvement

Support multiple CG PUSCH³ in a period, dynamic indication of unused CG PUSCH based on UCI⁴, PDU set-based discard, shorter discard timer, and others

Reduced RF complexity

Define a non-RedCap device class for AR/VR devices to support only 2Rx antennas in sub-7 GHz band with new performance requirements

Source: RP-232778 (XR enhancements); RP-240847 (Way forward on 2Rx for XR) 1 Discontinued reception; 2 Configured grant; 3 Physical uplink shared channel; 4 Uplink control information



5GNR A unified, scalable air interface allowing coexistence of a wide range of 5G device classes

Further scaling down the complexity of RedCap device family





5 MHz baseband bandwidth with 20 MHz RF for DL/UL data channels (PDSCH/PUSCH). 20 MHz baseband bandwidth also supported.



10 Mbps limitation of peak data rate



>10.24s extended discontinued reception (DRX) for RRC_Inactive mode



New signaling for Rel-18 eRedCap, coexisting with other 5G device types



with predictive maintenance

Release 18 RAN Plenary Study Item to enable standardization in Release 19+

A harmonized air interface design to enable ambient IoT devices

1 — 100's µW peak power with or without energy storage, DL/UL amplification, UL backscattered or generated by device Sub-7 GHz FDD for in-band to 5G NR, in guard-band to LTE/5G NR, or stand-alone For device-terminated (DT), device-originated, deviceterminated triggered (DO-DTT)

Expanding 5G sidelink capabilities in Release 18

For public safety, IoT, commercial use cases and beyond

Sidelink enhancements



Unlicensed spectrum

Optimized sidelink operations in unlicensed 5 and 6 GHz bands

Sidelink carrier aggregation

With only intra-band aggregation for use cases that can benefit from wider bandwidths

Multi-beam operation

Studying sidelink beam management by reusing and enhancing existing framework and concepts

Co-channel coexistence

For LTE and 5G NR sidelink in the same channel of 15/30 kHz subcarrier spacing

Sidelink relay enhancements



Device-to-device relay

Single-hop relay for unicast with forward compatibility for more hops

Service continuity enhancements

Device-to-network relay with intergNodeB device mobility and intragNodeB indirect-to-indirect path switching

Multi-path relay

Aggregation or switching between direct and indirectly relayed path for enhanced reliability and throughput

Pushing forward with the 5G positioning technologies

5G Advanced in Release 18



5G POSITIONING EVOLUTION

Release 16

Accuracy of 3m/10m (indoor/outdoor)

RTT¹, AoA/AoD², TDOA³, single-cell positioning

Evaluation scenarios for IIoT

Release 17

Centimeter-level absolute accuracy of down to 0.3m

Positioning latency as low as 10 ms

Higher capacity for millions of simultaneous devices



Improved positioning performance

PRS/SRS bandwidth aggregation across 3 intra-band contiguous carriers

DL/UL carrier phase positioning (CPP) for device-based / assisted, and network-assisted positioning with existing PRS/SRS

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Improving performance, expanding to new devices and deployments

sidelink positioning and ranging

AoA & TDOA with up to 100 MHz bandwidth in licensed & ITS spectrum

Unicast, groupcast, broadcast with Tx power control of sidelink PRS

Sidelink-only & network + sidelink coverage

Service authorization



RedCap device positioning

PRS/SRS frequency hopping beyond maximum RedCap bandwidth for Tx/Rx

RRM requirements for positioning with/without frequency hopping

mode PRS and eDRX configuration alignment in inactive mode

Low-power, high-

mode

accuracy positioning >10.24s of eDRX cycle in inactive

SRS config enhancements for

UL- & DL/UL-based methods

and reporting in connected

PRS measurements in idle mode



Integrity for RAT dependent positioning

Error modeling parameters, signaling and procedures for device-based and network-based positioning methods

Source: RP-231460 (Expanded and Improved NR Positioning)

1 Roundtrip Time; 2 Angle of Arrival, Angle of Departure; 3 Time Difference of Arrival; 4 Intelligent Transport System; 5 Radio Access Technology; 6 Positioning Reference Signal, Sounding Reference Signal; 7 aka. RedCap



Continued enhancements to 5G satellite communications

5G Non-Terrestrial Network (NTN) in 5G Advanced Release 18



5G NR for NTN

Broadband service complementing terrestrial networks in underserved areas

Coverage enhancements for voice and low-data rate services, including HARQ-ACK¹ repetition and DMRS² bundling with pre-compensation

Deployment in 10+ GHz bands (i.e., Ka band in n510, n511 and n512) and support for VSAT³/ESIM⁴

Network verified device location based on multi-RTT⁵ with single satellite measurements across time

Mobility and service continuity enhancements for NTN-TN & NTN-NTN



5G IoT for NTN

Low data rate service expanding addressable market for the 5G massive IoT

Enhanced GNSS⁶ operation for long connections and reduced power consumption and HARQ feedback disabling

Improved radio link failure triggering and extending of NTN mobility features to eMTC⁷

Discontinuous coverage with enhanced mobility management and power saving

Source: RP-234011 (NR NTN enhancements); RP-234073 (IoT NTN enhancements)

1 Hybrid automatic repeat request acknowledge; 2 Demodulation reference signal; 3 Very small aperture termina; 4 Earth station in motion; 5 Roundtrip time; 6 Global navigation satellite system; 7 Enhanced machine-type communication

5G drones are getting ready to take off



Release 18 work leverages the drone communication foundation in LTE Advanced Pro



Measurement reporting enhancements

- Device-triggered measurement report (height, location, speed)
- Flight path reporting
- Based on a configured number of cells fulfilling the triggering criteria simultaneously

Defining drone device type and out-of-band emission interference requirement in specified bands

- 1710-1785 MHz
- 2500-2570 MHz
- 2570-2620 MHz



Support for drone broadcast remote identification (BRID) and detect and avoid (DAA) using sidelink in designated spectrum

Signaling to support subscription-based drone identification and capability indication (e.g., Rel-18 enhancements and altitude event triggers)



Continued enhancement to 5G multicast / broadcast



Multicast reception by devices in RRC Inactive mode



Signaling enhancements to allow shared processing between unicast and multicast / broadcast with the same or different operator



Enhanced resource efficiency for multicast / broadcast reception in RAN sharing scenarios



5G ADVANCED

Establishing the technical foundation for 6G





Global Momentum for 6G is growing

We are leading key discussions and working groups to promote early government investments in critical technologies



IMT-2030 defines next-gen mobile system requirements for 2030 and beyond



A GLOBAL INITIATIVE

The standards body responsible for global 6G technology standardization United States NextG Alliance

NEXTG

ALLIANCE

European Union

6G-IA (6G Smart Networks and Services Industry Association)

China IMT-2030 PG Japan XG Mobil

6G Forum

6G

Bharat**6**Ĝ Alliance XG Mobile Promotion Forum

XGMF

) India Bharat 6

Bharat 6G Alliance

WRC-23

Setting the agenda for WRC-27 to secure new 6G bands





CONTINUED TECHNOLOGY EVOLUTION



KEY MARKET TRENDS AND TECHNOLOGY DRIVERS

Leading the way to 6G



Core technology advancements



Environmental and societal sustainability

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Enhanced and new experiences





Propelling next-level experiences and innovative use cases in the new era of the connected intelligent edge for 2030 and beyond

6G vision from ITU-R — Usage scenarios and capabilities





Enhanced Capabilities

KEY LONGER-TERM RESEARCH VECTORS

Enabling the path towards 6G



Al-native E2E communications

Data-driven communication and network design, with joint training, model sharing and distributed inference across networks and devices

Expanding into new spectrum bands

Expanding to THz, wide-area expansion to higher bands, new spectrum sharing paradigm, dynamic coordination with environmental awareness

Merging of worlds

Physical, digital, virtual, immersive interactions taking human augmentation to next level via ubiquitous, low-power joint communication and sensing



Scalable network architecture

Disaggregation and virtualization at the connected intelligent edge, use of advanced topologies to address growing demand

Air interface innovations

Evolution of duplexing schemes, Giga-MIMO, mmWave evolution, reconfigurable intelligent surfaces, nonterrestrial communications, waveform/coding for MHz to THz, system energy efficiency

A

Communications resiliency

Multifaceted trust and configurable security, post quantum security, robust networks tolerant to failures and attacks



Driving Technology Innovation on the Path to 6G



At Mobile World Congress Barcelona 2024



5G Beyond Mobile Broadband

Wireless



Large-scale VRU alerts OTA Coverage prediction

Boundless AR over 5G/Wi-Fi Hololight collab.



Capacity simulation Low-power wakeup signal



TN-NTN, NTN-NTN mobility Ericsson, Keysight collab.



Commercial readiness Rohde & Schwarz collab.

Thank you

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