

January 2022

San Diego, CA

Setting off the 5G Advanced evolution



Release 18

56

accelerating globally

200

Operators with 5G commercially deployed

1B+

5G connections by 2023 – 2 years faster than 4G

285+

Additional operators

750M+

investing in 5G

1250+

5G designs launched or in development

3.8B+

5G smartphones to ship between 2020 and 2024

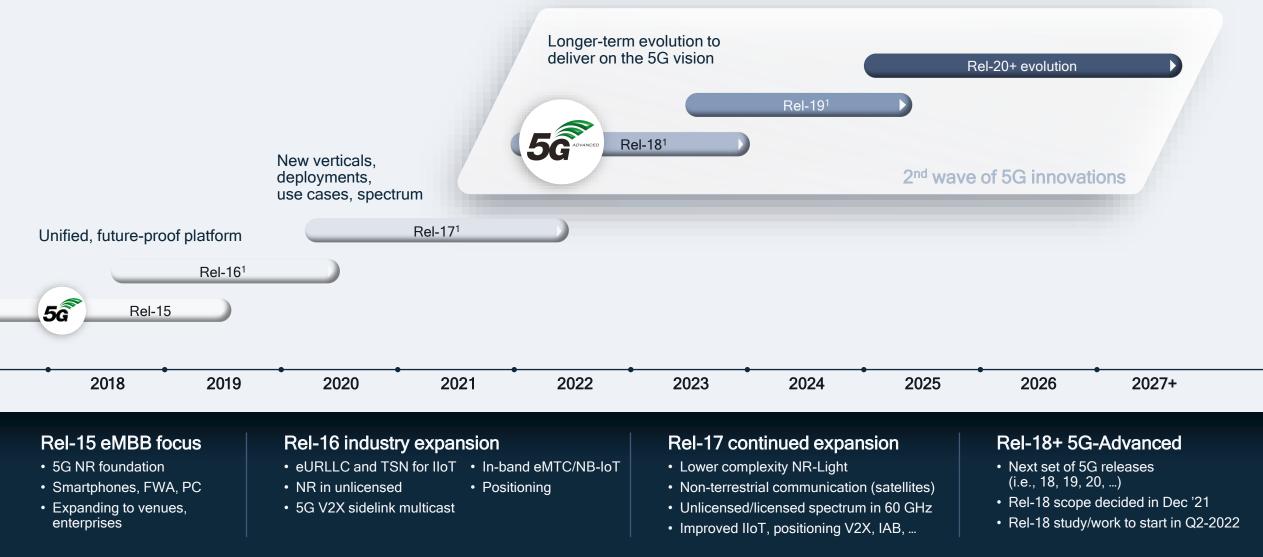


5G smartphones

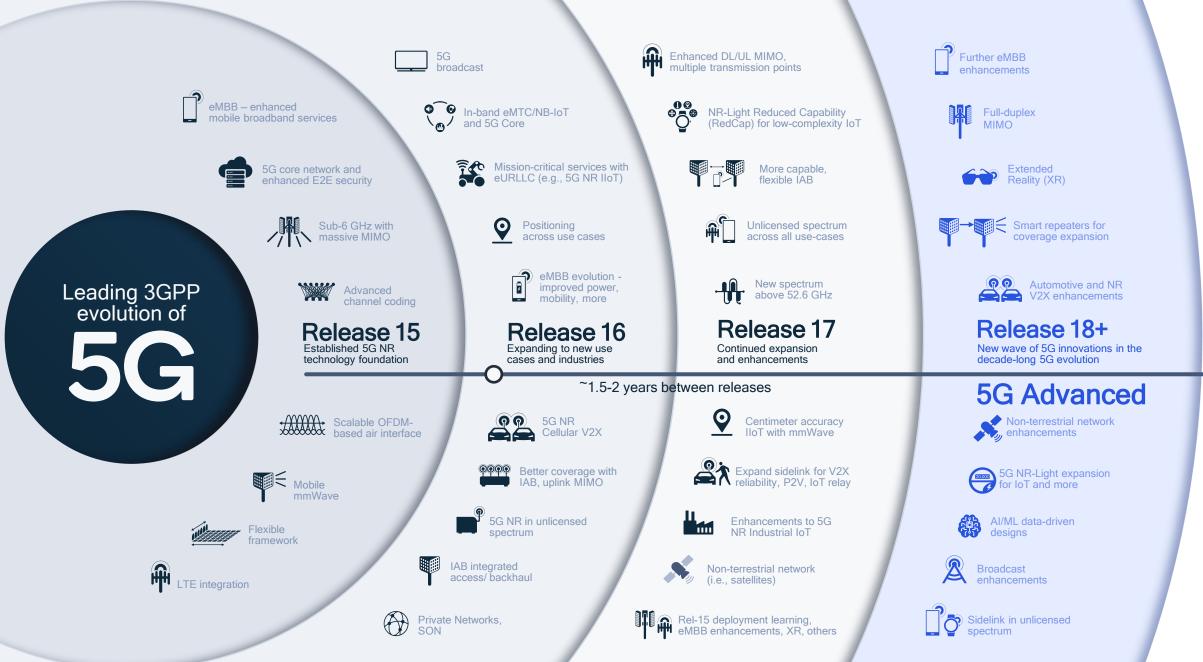
to ship in 2022

Sources – 5G commercial networks: operator public announcements. Operators investing in 5G: GSA, Oct 2020. 5G device shipment projections: Qualcomm internal estimates, Nov 2020. 2023 5G connections: avg of ABI (Jun 2020), Ericsson (Jun 2020) and GSMA Intelligence (Oct 2020). Cumulative 5G smartphone shipments - avg of CCS Insight (Sep 2020), CounterPoint Research (Sep 2020), IDC (Aug 2020), Strategy Analytics (Oct 2020).

Driving the 5G technology evolution in the new decade



1. 3GPP start date indicates approval of study package (study item->work item->specifications), previous release continues beyond start of next release with functional freezes and ASN.1



Driving a balanced 5G evolution across key technology areas

Mobile broadband evolution vs. further vertical expansion



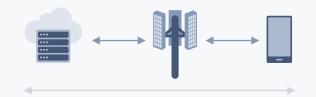
Deliver enhanced mobile broadband experiences and extend 5G's reach into new use cases

Immediate commercial needs vs. longer-term 5G vision



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

New and enhanced devices vs. network evolution

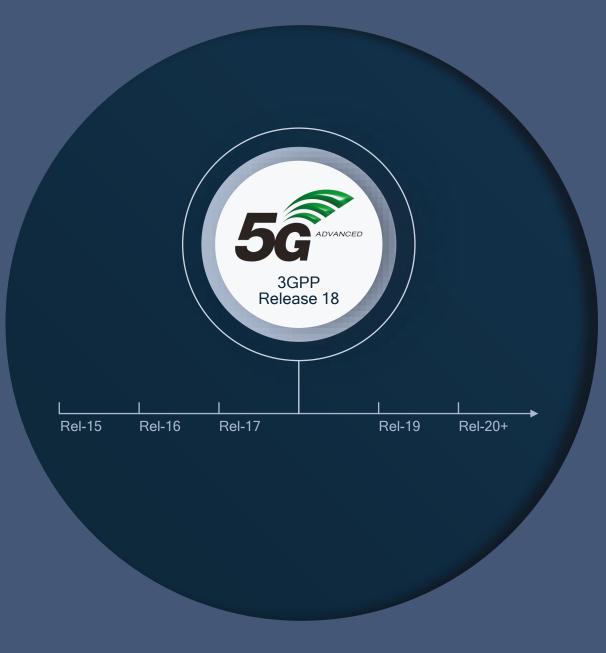


Focus on the end-to-end technology evolution of the 5G system to bring new levels of performance

Release 18 scope takes into consideration of the 5G Advanced evolution in Release 18, 19, and beyond (i.e., many Study Items defined to set up for Work Items in later releases)

What will be included in Release 18?

The first 3GPP release in 5G Advanced evolution





3GPP Release 18 sets off the **5G Advanced Evolution**

Approved package has a wide range of projects – nominal work to start in Q2 2022

Strengthen the end-to-end 5G system foundation





Mobile IAB. smart repeater



AI/ML data-driven designs



mobility



Evolved duplexing



Proliferate 5G to virtually

all devices and use cases

NR-Light (RedCap) evolution



Boundless

extended reality

Expanded positioning





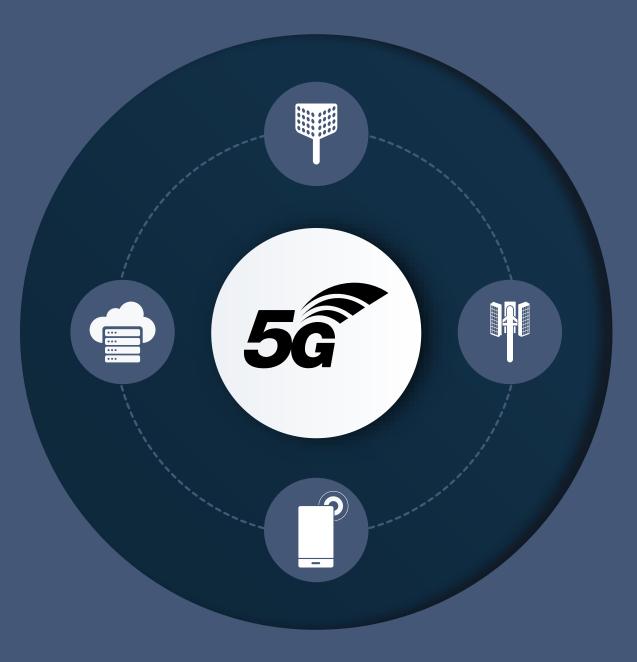
 \mathbf{X} **Drones & expanded**

satellites comm.

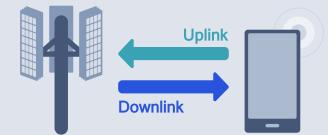
Multicast & other enhancements

Strengthen the end-to-end 5G system foundation

Further enhancing 5G mobile broadband and expanded use cases



Focus areas for Release 18



Continuing to evolve 5G MIMO performance and efficiency

CSI¹ and CSI-RS² enhancements in high or medium velocities to exploit time-domain correlation or Doppler-domain information

Extending Rel-17 unified TCI³ framework for multiple downlink/uplink TCI states

Supporting larger number of orthogonal DMRS⁴ ports for downlink or uplink multi-user MIMO Enhanced CSI acquisition for coherent-JT⁵ targeting 4 TRPs for both FDD⁶ and TDD⁷ bands in sub-7 GHz

Supporting uplink DMRS, SRS⁸ for 6/8 Tx uplink to support 4+ layers per device targeting CPE⁹, FWA¹⁰, vehicle, industrial devices

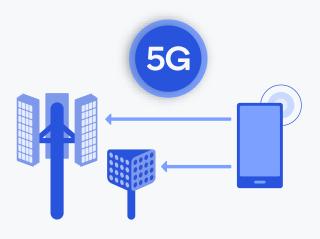
Facilitating simultaneous multi-panel uplink for higher throughput and reliability

Specifying panel-specific timing/ power control for uplink multi-TRP¹¹ or multi-panel setup

Source: RP-213598 (MIMO Evolution)

Channel State Information; 2 CSI Reference Signal; Transmission Configuration Indicator;
Demodulation Reference Signal; 5 Joint Transmission; 6 Frequency Division Duplexing;
Time Division Duplexing; 8 Sounding Reference Signal; 9 Customer Premises Equipment;
Fixed Wireless Access;11 Transmission Reception Points;

Driving higher 5G uplink performance and efficiency



Uplink enhancements 3GPP Release 18

O (UL coverage enhancements) ccess Channel; 2 Discrete Fourier Transform Spread Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplexing; ional Frequency Division Multiplexing. **Coverage enhancements** targeting multiple PRACH¹ transmissions with same beam as well as with different beams (for mmWave) targeting 4-step RACH

Power domain enhancements, such as dynamic power aggregation for CA/DC and enhanced transmit power efficiency (e.g., via spectrum shaping, tone reservation)

Improved support of UL-MIMO via dynamic waveform switching between CP-OFDM³ and DFTS-OFDM²

Further optimizing 5G device mobility management

Work Item targeting operations in both sub-7 GHz and mmWave bands

5G NR Release 18 project is proposed to address different deployment configurations

ource: RP-213565 (Mobility enhancements) Dual Connectivity; 2 Primary Cell of Secondary Cell Group (SCG); 3 Secondary Cell Group; Master Cell Group; 5 Secondary Cell.

Layer 1 / 2 based inter-cell mobility

Configuration and maintenance of multiple candidate cells, dynamic switching among those, and other L1 enhancements (e.g., L1 measurement reporting / mobility command)

NR-DC¹ with selective activation of cell groups via L3 enh.

Conditional PSCell² Addition and Change among multiple candidate SCGs. One SCG³ active at a time.

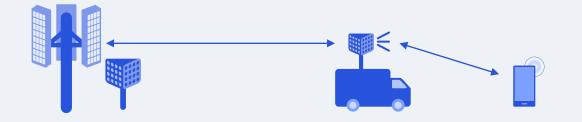
Conditional Handover enhancements

Conditional configuration including target MCG and target SCG or target MCG⁴ and target SCGs for Conditional PSCell Addition and Change.

FR2 enhancements

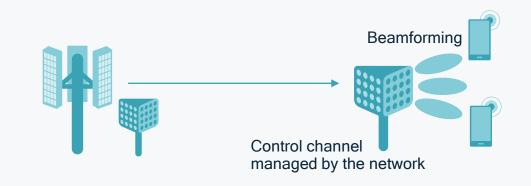
SCell⁵/SCG setup delay improvement. New early UE measurements procedure.

Mobile integrated access/backhaul (IAB) and vehicle mounted relay (VMR)



Focus on the mobile IAB mounted on vehicles providing 5G coverage/capacity enhancement supporting single hop in-band, out-of-band backhauling, device handover and dual connectivity

Smart repeaters with side control information

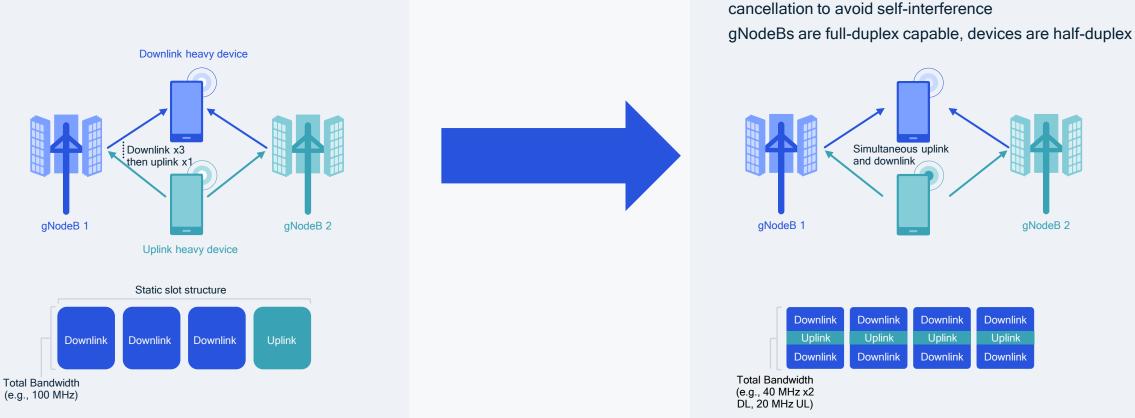


Focus on single-hop operation that is transparent to the device, supporting identification/authorization of smart repeaters, with side control information including max Tx power, beamforming, timing, TDD configurations, and on/off

Cost-efficient expansion of 5G coverage and capacity New Release 18 project focuses on new 5G deployment topologies

Static TDD

Time aligned to avoid inter-site interference Time separation to avoid self-interference



Evolving towards a full duplex wireless system

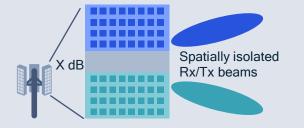
Improving perceived user throughput, latency, uplink coverage – path to single-frequency full duplex (SFFD)

Sub-band Full Duplex (SBFD)

Frequency aligned to avoid inter-site interference

Frequency separation and interference

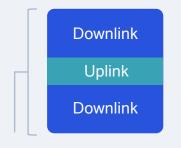
Spatial/beam isolation/duplexer



Two separate antenna panels for simultaneous Tx/Rx

80 to 90 dB isolation between 2 panels based on lab measurement in mmWave

Frequency isolation (for SBFD)



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

Subband "frequency" multiplexing uplink and downlink (FDM) Y dB isolation (Y > 40 dB)

Digital/analog self-interference mitigation



Tx/Rx processing including potential nulling Z dB from mitigation technique

Key enablers for a full duplex air interface

Working to define suitable parameter values for X,Y and Z to enable full duplex operations

Release 18 lays the foundation for the future of full duplex

Identify and evaluate potential enhancements to support duplex evolution for 5G NR TDD spectrum





Network architecture enhancements

Allowing for machine learning to run over different HW/SW and future RAN function split to improve flexibility and efficiency



AI/ML procedure enhancements

Optimizing system for model management, training (e.g., federated and reinforced learning), and inference

••	•
••	
••	

Data management enhancements

Standardizing ML data storage/access, data registration/discovery, and data request/subscription



New and expanded use cases

Supporting traffic/mobility prediction, coverage/capacity optimization, massive MIMO, SON, CSI feedback, beam management, and other PHY/MAC and upper layer improvements



5G Advanced (Rel-18+) targets to expand wireless machine learning to the end-to-end system across RAN, device, and air interface



3GPP Release 18 Scope for wireless ML projects

Source: RP-213599 (Al/ML for NR Air Interface), RP-213602 (Al/ML for NG-RAN) 1 Quality of Experience

AI/ML-enabled air interface design

° **∭** ∈ Use cases

Including enhanced channel state information (CSI) feedback, beam management, and positioning accuracy (including heavy non-line-of-sight conditions)

AI/ML models

† ÷ **[**

Identifying collaboration models, from no collaboration to cross-node ML, life cycle management of models, characterizing model generation/inference algorithms

Evaluation methodology

Utilizing existing 3GPP framework for evaluations and field data to assess performance in real-world environments, as well as identifying common KPIs



Impact assessment

Evaluating specification changes needed to support identified use cases, covering PHY layer, protocol, interoperability and testability aspects

AI/ML framework for next-generation radio access network



Network optimization Specify enhanced data collection and signaling support for Al/ML-based network energy saving, load balancing and mobility optimization



Future study

Study new use cases (e.g., AI/ML for slicing, QoE¹), as well as network functionality and interface procedures (e.g., multi-vendor interoperability)

Driving towards greener 5G networks Release 18 project scope

Define a base station energy consumption model

Define an evaluation methodology and KPIs

Study techniques on the base station and device side to improve network energy savings

Target system-level studies with various scenarios:

- Urban micro in sub-7 GHz, including TDD massive MIMO
- mmWave beam-based deployments
- Urban/rural macro in sub-6 GHz with/without DSS¹
- Dual connected macro with FDD anchor and TDD on higher sub-7 GHz
- Other scenarios, e.g., small cell deployment

Proliferate 5G to virtually all devices and use cases

Continued expansion to new device types and tiers – fulfilling the 5G vision



Purpose-built system enhancements for XR over 5G



Release 18 focuses on capacity considerations as well as power savings for XR use cases

Source: RP-213587 (Enhancements for XR) 1 Quality of Service; 2 Key Performance Indicators; 3 Radio Access Network; 4 Connected Discontinued Reception; 5 Semi-Persistent Scheduling

KPIs¹ and QoS²

Enhancing RAN³ support for enhanced granularity for QoS and XR-specific parameters

Application awareness

Optimizing DL/UL XR traffic in the network to improve user experience and network efficiency

P

Power optimization

Specifying XR-specific power saving techniques such as enhanced C-DRX⁴ and control channel monitoring

Capacity enhancement

Supporting resource allocation and scheduling specifically for XR traffic profile, such as enhanced SPS⁵ and dynamic grants

Sidelink enhancements



Unlicensed spectrum

Supporting optimized sidelink operations in unlicensed 5 and 6 GHz bands

Sidelink carrier aggregation

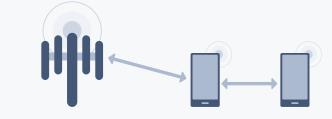
Supporting enhanced use cases that can benefit from wider bandwidths

Multi-beam operation

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

Sidelink relay enhancements





Device-to-device relay

Allowing single-hop operation for unicast with forward compatibility for more hops

Multipath relay & UE Aggregation/Switching

Enhancing reliability and throughput for 1 direct (Uu) + 1 indirect (PC5 or ideal link) path within the same cell

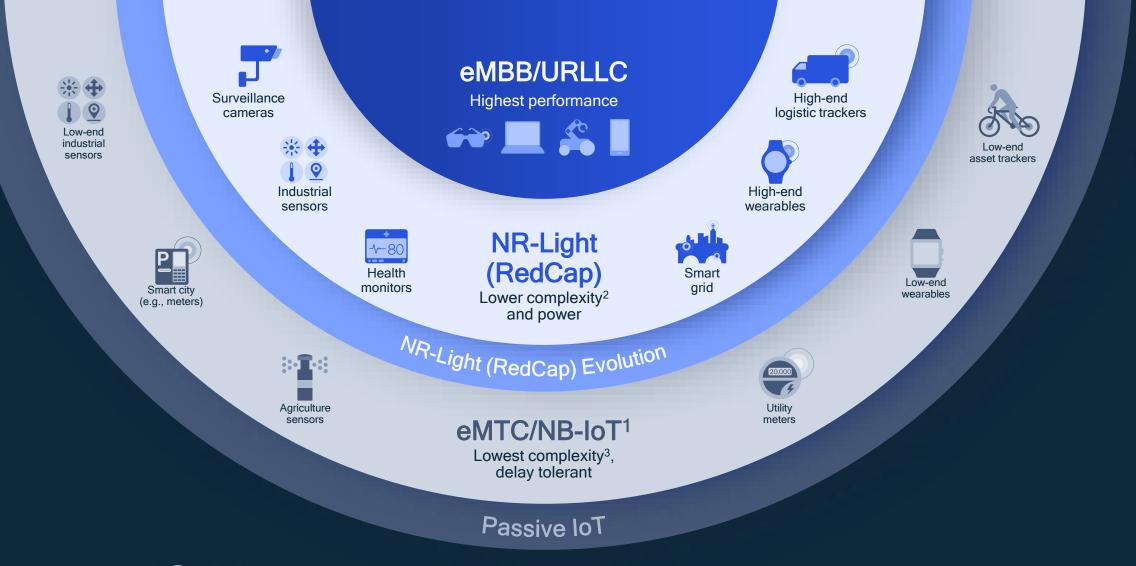
Service continuity enhancements for UE-to-NW relay

Supporting inter-gNodeB mobility and intra-gNodeB indirect-to-indirect path switching

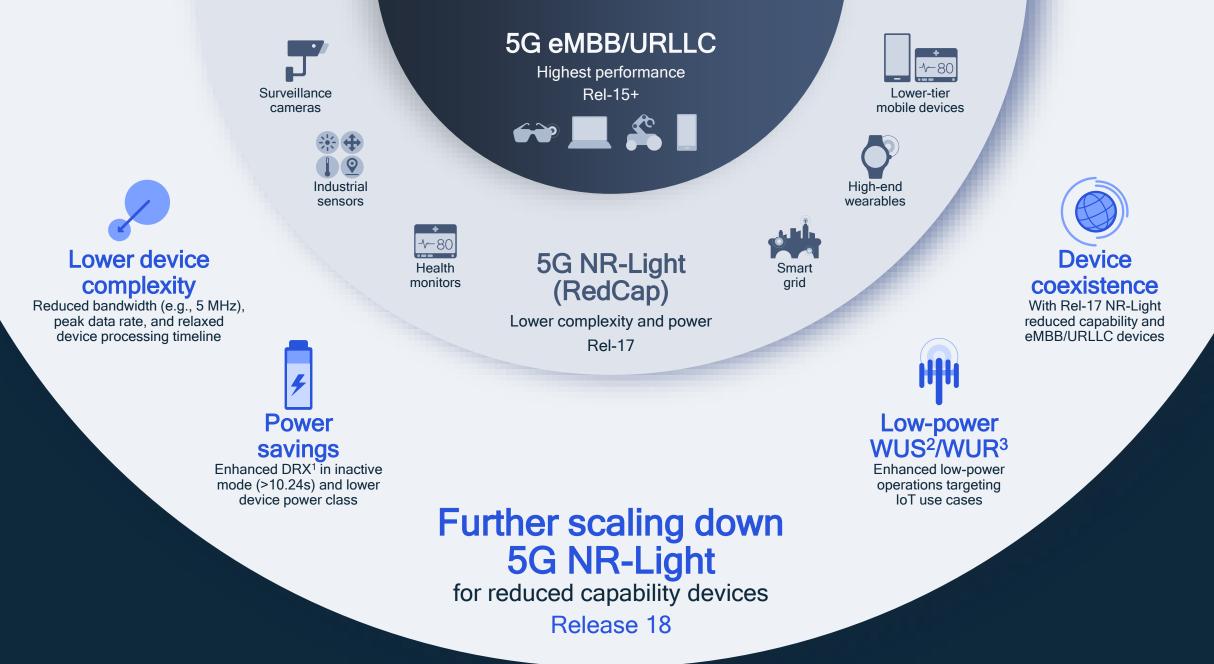
Remaining Rel-17 work

Completing features such as discontinued reception (DRX) for sidelink relay operations

Expanding 5G Sidelink capabilities in Release 18 For public safety, IoT, commercial use cases and beyond – Study and Work Item project scope



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



Source: RP-213661 (RedCap evolution); RP-213645 (Low-Power WUS) 1 Discontinued Reception; 2 Wakeup Signal; 3 Wakeup Receiver

Supporting 5G NR devices with 5 MHz or lower bandwidth

3 to 5 MHz bandwidth in <u>dedicated</u> FDD sub-7 GHz spectrum

15 kHz SCS¹ with normal CP²

PSS/SSS³ without puncturing, PBCH⁴ based on current design

For 5G NR deployments for specific applications

Source: RP-213603 (<5 MHz NR in dedicated spectrum) 1 Subcarrier Spacing; 2 Cyclic Prefix; 3 Primary/Secondary Synchronization Signals; 4 Physical Broadcast Channel



Public Protection & Disaster Relief

Precise device class definition

Supporting ultra-low power consumption and energy-harvesting capabilities

Potential use cases

Such as identification, tracking, monitoring, sensing for logistics, transportation, healthcare

Deployment scenarios

Such as public/private, indoor/outdoor, macro/small cells, direct/relay, traffic models, spectrum Passive IoT

Targeting for Rel-19+

Existing solutions

Competing technologies such as RFID or other proprietary connectivity platforms

Design targets

Such as link budget, data rate, power, energy harvesting techniques, positioning accuracy

Coexistence

With existing 3GPP devices, infrastructure, and spectrum

Further scaling down 5G NR IoT support

Continued 3GPP discussions focusing on key interest areas to refine future project scope



Release 16 Establishing foundation

Achieving accuracy of 3m/10m (indoor/outdoor) for 80% of time

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

Including new evaluation scenarios, i.e., industrial IoT

Release 17 Enhancing performance

Meeting centimeter-level absolute accuracy requirement of down to 0.3m

Reducing positioning latency to as low as 10 ms

Scaling to higher capacity for millions of simultaneous devices (e.g., IoT, automotive)

5G Advanced in Release 18

Improving performance, expanding to new devices and deployments



Sidelink positioning and ranging

Defining methodologies, reference signals, measurements, procedures for absolute and relative (e.g., ranging) sidelink positioning in licensed and ITS⁴ spectrum



Improved positioning performance

Specifying higher layer solutions for RAT⁵ dependent positioning techniques, accuracy improvement based on PRS/SRS⁶ bandwidth aggregation, and carrier phase measurements



NR-Light⁷ positioning

Setting performance requirements, evaluating performance for R17 positioning procedures, and identifying potential enhancements

Pushing forward with the 5G positioning technologies

Source: RP-213588 (Expanded and improved 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

5G NR for NTN Complementing terrestrial networks in underserved areas



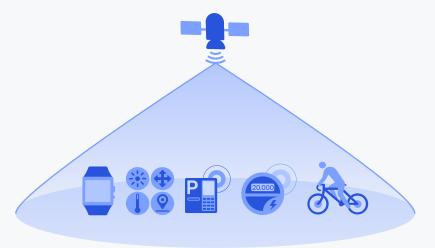
Network verified device location based on satellites network

Coverage Mobility enhancements for enhancements for voice and low-data satellite and terrestrial networks rate services

Deployment in 10+ GHz bands and support for VSAT¹/ESIM²

5G IoT for NTN

Expanding addressable market for the 5G massive IoT



Addressing remaining Rel- Enhanced mobility 17 issues (e.g., disabling HARQ³ feedback to mitigate impact of HARQ device data rate stalling)

such as neighbor cell measurements and extending to eMTC

Enhanced GNSS operation for longer connections and reduced power consumption

Study possible enhancements to Rel-17 for discontinuous coverage

Expanding the 5G NR support for satellites communication

5G Advanced will further enhance the non-terrestrial networks (NTN) foundation

Source: RP-213690 (NTN Enhancements); RP-213596 (IoT NTN Enhancements) 1 Very Small Aperture Termina; 2 Earth Station In Motion; 3 Hybrid Automatic Repeat Request;



5G drones are getting ready to take off

Release 18 leverages the cellular drones work in Rel-15 LTE-A Pro

Measurement reports

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

Signaling to support subscription-based aerial device identification

Support for broadcast/groupcast of drone identification

Beam management enhancements (e.g., device directional antenna)

Improved DSS¹

Enabling NR-PDCCH² reception in symbols with LTE CRS. Allow two overlapping CRS rate matching patterns regardless of support of multiple TRPs.

Low-power WUS³

Study the feasibility of a very low-power WUS design not necessarily using existing signals and aiming at substantial gains compared to R15/R16/R17 mechanisms.

Multi-SIM⁴

Enhance support for simultaneous network connections (i.e., 2) and more seamless switching

In-device coexistence

Improve interference management of 5G and other technologies focusing on enhanced FDM⁵ and TDM⁵ solution

Small data transmission

Support mobile terminated triggered transmissions in inactive state for e.g., enhanced paging



Other RAN projects in 3GPP Release 18

SON/MDT⁶ enhancements

Add IRAT⁷ handover voice fallback, enhanced random access procedure, and expanded use cases (e.g., NPN)

Improved QoE⁸

Support new service types (e.g., AR, broadcast), QoE in NR-DC (e.g., reporting via Secondary Node)

gNodeB CU⁹ resiliency

Study and agree possible failure scenarios associated with the Control Plane of the gNB-CU



Multicast enhancements

Support reception in inactive mode, UE indication/signaling for "shared processing", enhanced RAN sharing

CA¹⁰ enhancements

Support multi-cell scheduling and improve multi-carrier uplink focusing on Tx switching for 3 or more bands

Source: RP-213575 (DSS enhancements); RP-213645 (Low-Power WUS); RP-213584 (MUSIM Enhancements); RP-213589 (IDC Enhancements); RP-213583 (Small data transmission); RP-213553 (SON/MDT enhancements); RP-213594 (QoE Enhancements); RP-213677 (gNodeB CU resiliency); RP-213568 (MBS enhancements); RP-213577 (CA enhancements);

1 Dynamic Spectrum Sharing; 2 5G NR Physical Downlink Control Channel; 3 Wakeup Signal; 4 Subscriber Identity Module; 5 Frequency Division Multiplexing, Time Division Multiplexing; 6 Self Organizing Network/Minimization of Drive Test; 7 Inter Radio Access Technology; 8 Quality of Experience; 9 Central Unit; 10 Carrier Aggregation

	AI/ML	Air interface (cross-node channel state feedback, beam management, positioning) Study Item in Rel-18 and Work Item in Rel-19+				
	Full Duplex	Full Duplex in TDD bands, sub-6/mr Study Item in Rel-18 and Work Item	nWave, enhanced crosslink interference in Rel-19+	e, coexistence with legacy and othe	r operators	
4	Network Power Savings	Rel-18: Techniques on the gNodeB energy savings in terms of both tran		Rel-19+: Further enhancements for system power saving		
	XR	Rel-18: Application-aware RAN (frame-level QoS, multi-streams), power enhancements, capacity enhancements		Rel-19+: Further enhancements for capacity and power		
	Enhanced RedCap/IoT	Rel-18: Reduced complexity/cost (5MHz devices), power savings, sidelink support, enhancements for narrow band positioning		Rel-19+: Low-power Wake Up Signal, passive IoT (energy harvesting)		
×,	Enhanced Non-terrestrial network	Rel-18: Coverage enhancements, demobility and service continuity enhancements	eployment above 10 GHz bands, ncements, enhancements for IoT-NTN	Rel-19+: Possible further enhancements		
	Sidelink/V2X	Rel-18: Enhancements for unlicensed, mmWave enhancements, device-to-device relay, coexistence of LTE/NR V2X, enhanced CA		Rel-19+: Enhancements for sidelink MIMO, enhancements for power savings, etc.		
	eMBB enhancement	Rel-18: Rel-18: MIMO enhancements, enhanced uplink coverage, smart repeater, enhanced mobility, network energy savings		Rel-19+: MIMO enhancements (CSF time domain compression, etc.), enhancements for network energy savings		
		Release 18	Release 19	Release 20	Release 21	
•	2022	• 2023	• 2024	2025	2026	

Release 18 is just the start of the 5G Advanced evolution

Further 5G NR enhancements in R19, R20, and beyond

How will 5G evolve in the new decade?



Advancing 5G to fulfill its full promise

Enhanced mobile experiences, new capabilities, and expansion to diverse verticals

dustry 4.0

7 5G V2X Sidelink

Boundless

5G

Wide-area 5G

Mobile mmWave

Green networks

Wide-area 5G evolution

Subband half duplex flexible service multiplexing (OTA)

- Precise positioning based on multi-RTT+AoA (OTA w/ ZTE/CMCC)
- Cross-node ML for CSF to improve uplink capacity (sim)
- NR-Light evolution with sidelink for lower-complexity IoT (sim)
- Device stack disaggregation for enhanced performance (msg)

Mobile mmWave evolution

- Deployment planning tool for outdoor mmWave networks (sim)
- mmWave repeaters for improved reliability and coverage (OTA)
- Enhanced mmWave beam prediction with machine learning (OTA)
- NR-Light expansion to address outdoor IoT use cases (sim)

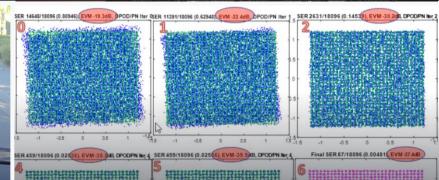
Indoor mmWave support for industrial IoT use cases (sim)

Industrial IoT expansion Ultra-high reliability, time sensitive networking, and sidelink (OTA)

- Centimeter-level indoor positioning for asset tracking (OTA)
- Complementary sidelink for improved network capacity (sim)

Boundless XR over 5G mmWave

 Multi-user, immersive boundless VR experience enabled and improved through end-to-end optimizations over mmWave (OTA)



5G green networks

- Power Amplifier Optimization techniques such as digital postdistortion (DPoD), which can save 50% of the PA power (sim)
- Super-QAM using iterative impairment cancellation to increase peak data rates with 50-66% (sim)

Accelerating the 5G expansion and paving the path to 6G A heavyweight lineup of advanced wireless R&D demonstrations for MWC Barcelona 2021 YouTube Plavlist

Enhanced 5G V2X sidelink

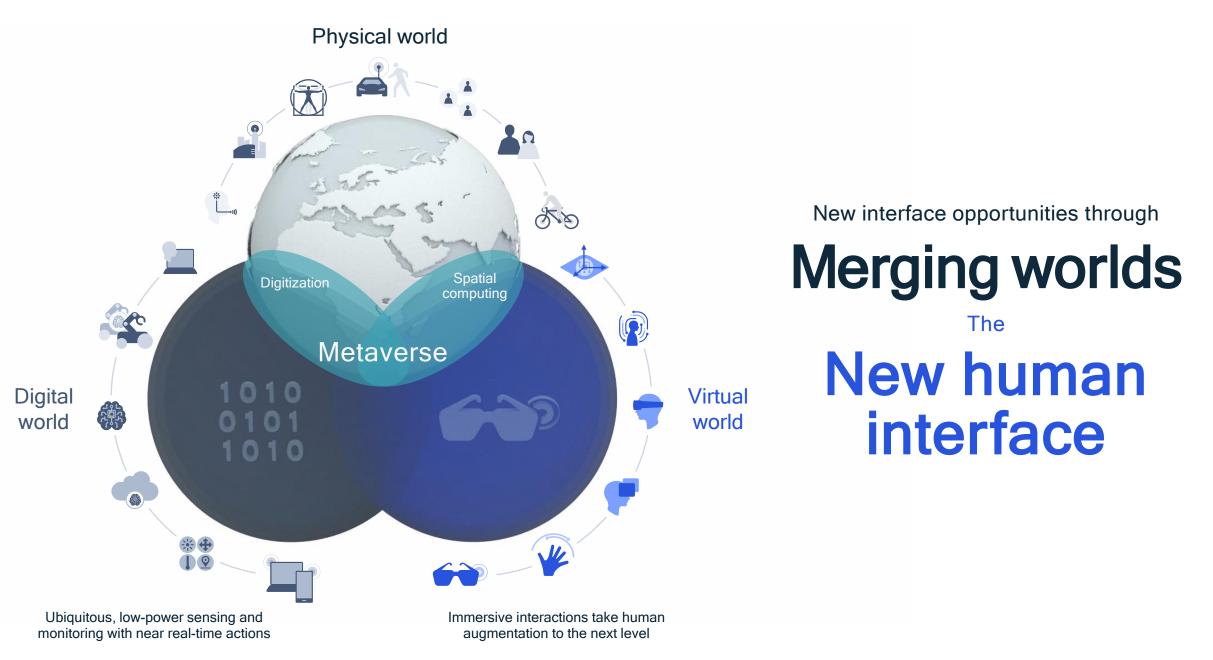
bandwidth applications, e.g., 3D HD maps (OTA)

Complementing 5G networks with a local RSU to offload high

Robust sidelink communication without GNSS coverage (OTA)



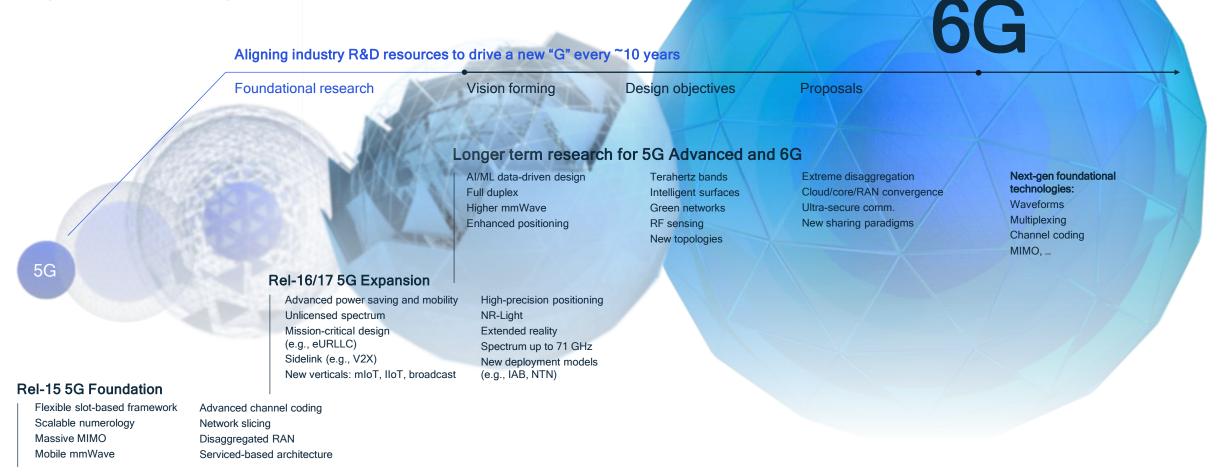
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Leading the 5G evolution towards 6G

Longer term R&D focusing on 5G Advanced Rel-18/19/20+ and 6G

Next technology leap for new capabilities and efficiencies



2024

2025

2026

2027

WRC-27

2018

2019

2020

2021

WRC-23

2023

2022

2029

2028

2030 +

Key research vectors enabling the path towards 6G



AI/ML powered E2E communications

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

Spectrum expansion & sharing

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

New radio designs



Evolution of duplexing schemes, large-scale MIMO, mmWave evolution, reconfigurable intelligent surfaces, non-terrestrial communications, waveform/coding for MHz to THz, system energy efficiency



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



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





Design goals & performance vectors

Spectral efficiency User experience Ease of onboarding Capacity Latency Mobility Cost efficiency Data rate Reliability Security Scalability Intelligence Energy efficiency Connection density Positioning capability And others. Coverage



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