

University of Pittsburgh

Wireless Network Virtualization: Opportunities for Spectrum Sharing in the 3.5 GHz Band

School of **Information Sciences**

Creating a comprehensive framework for the deployment of spectrum sharing environments where virtualization is applied

Regulation

Regulatory Flexibility Framework established by the FCC • Three tiers of users were defined for shared operations

- DoD radar systems Incumbent Access FSS • Grandfathered terrestrial wireless operations in the 3650 - 3700 MHz ban 3-vear license
 - **Priority Access** • Up to seven 10MHz-channels • Competitive bidding • Predictable access **General Authorized** • Licensed by rule Access • Not protected from interference from other CBRS users.
- Users have access to different portions of the band according to their priority



Priority Access Licenses

• The Spectrum Access System (SAS) will be in charge of an automated frequency assignment process

Technology

Technical enabler of regulatory flexibility:

- Wireless Network Virtualization: partitioning, combination, slicing and abstraction of resources to create virtual (wireless) network instances
- Our focus: **Resource Pooling**

Opportunities:

- Find improved alternatives for resource use, sharing and assignment
- Create multiple virtual networks, serving specific purposes using distinct technologies
- Make network changes while minimizing costs

Economics





Facility-based vs. Servicebased Competition

In a virtualized environment, we expect service-based competition to prevail

• Supported (and encouraged) by the adoption of process and value networks

Marcela M. Gómez – Martin B.H. Weiss

mmg62@pitt.edu

mbw@pitt.edu

Spectrum Value

Defined by the services deployed using spectrum Varies according to:

- Spectrum license characteristics
- Service demand

• Innovation and technological changes Valuation guides the operators' willingness to pay for spectrum access

Sharing Opportunities

- Local approach: Enhanced (simple) sharing scenarios
- Generalized approach: Added network flexibility and increased opportunities for new entrants
- Task redistribution among network entities
- New business models focused on specialization and sharing
- New methods to deal with uncertainty and preserve incentives
- Sharing process becomes transparent to RPs and SPs



SAS : Spectrum Access System VNB: Virtual Network Builder **RP:** Resource Provider SP : Service Provider

Where are we heading next?

We presented a **comprehensive framework** for developing novel sharing opportunities through Wireless Network Virtualization

Our future work:

- Exploring social and governance approaches
- Improving our previous spectrum trading model

Scan the QR code for a complete version of this paper

This work has been funded in part by the U.S. National Science Foundation under Grant 1443796

