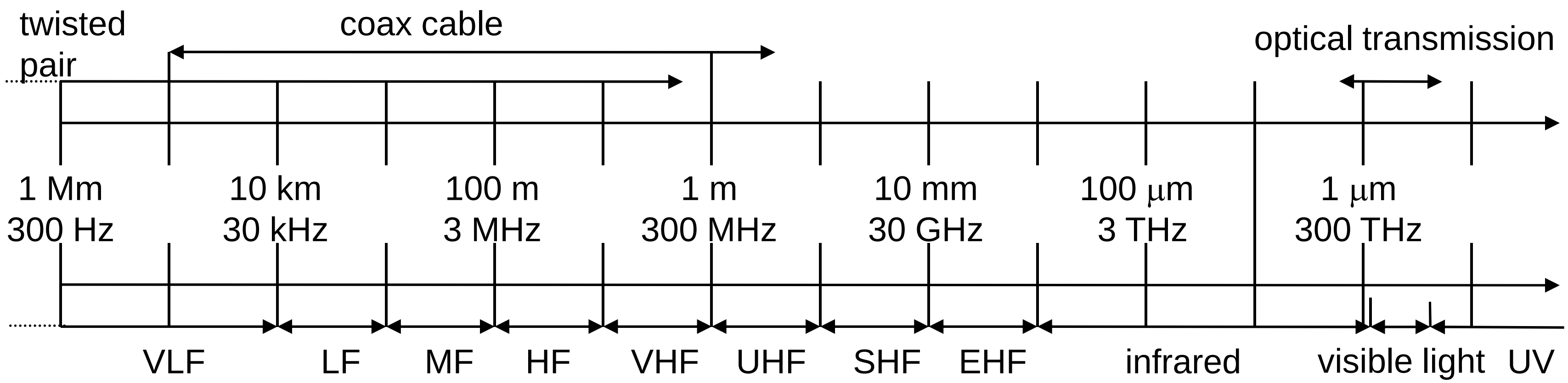
Mobile Communications
Wireless Transmission

- Frequencies
- Signals
- Antenna
- Signal propagation
- Multiplexing
- Spread spectrum
- Modulation
- Cellular systems

Frequencies for communication



VLF = Very Low Frequency

LF = Low Frequency

MF = Medium Frequency

HF = High Frequency

VHF = Very High Frequency

UHF = Ultra High Frequency

SHF = Super High Frequency

EHF = Extra High Frequency

UV = Ultraviolet Light

Frequency and wave length:

$\lambda = c/f$

wave length λ, speed of light $c \cong 3\text{x}10^8$m/s, frequency f

Frequencies for mobile communication

- VHF-/UHF-ranges for mobile radio
  - simple, small antenna for cars
  - deterministic propagation characteristics, reliable connections
- SHF and higher for directed radio links, satellite communication
  - small antenna, beam forming
  - large bandwidth available
- Wireless LANs use frequencies in UHF to SHF range
  - some systems planned up to EHF
  - limitations due to absorption by water and oxygen molecules (resonance frequencies)
    - weather dependent fading, signal loss caused by heavy rainfall etc.

Frequencies and regulations

ITU-R holds auctions for new frequencies, manages frequency bands worldwide (WRC, World Radio Conferences)

	Europe	USA	Japan
Cellular Phones	**GSM** 450-457, 479-486/460-467,489-496, 890-915/935-960, 1710-1785/1805-1880 **UMTS** (FDD) 1920-1980, 2110-2190 **UMTS** (TDD) 1900-1920, 2020-2025	**AMPS**, **TDMA**, **CDMA** 824-849, 869-894 **TDMA**, **CDMA**, **GSM** 1850-1910, 1930-1990	**PDC** 810-826, 940-956, 1429-1465, 1477-1513
Cordless Phones	**CT1+** 885-887, 930-932	**PACS** 1850-1910, 1930-1990	**PHS** 1895-1918
	CT2 864-868 **DECT** 1880-1900	**PACS-UB** 1910-1930	**JCT** 254-380
Wireless LANs	**IEEE 802.11** 2400-2483 **HIPERLAN 2** 5150-5350, 5470-5725	902-928 **IEEE 802.11** 2400-2483 5150-5350, 5725-5825	**IEEE 802.11** 2471-2497 5150-5250
Others	**RF-Control** 27, 128, 418, 433, 868	**RF-Control** 315, 915	**RF-Control** 426, 868

Signals I

- physical representation of data
- function of time and location
- signal parameters: parameters representing the value of data
- classification
  - continuous time/discrete time
  - continuous values/discrete values
  - analog signal = continuous time and continuous values
  - digital signal = discrete time and discrete values
- signal parameters of periodic signals:
  period T, frequency f=1/T, amplitude A, phase shift φ
  - sine wave as special periodic signal for a carrier:

$$s(t) = A_t \sin(2 \pi f_t t + \varphi_t)$$

Signal propagation ranges

Transmission range

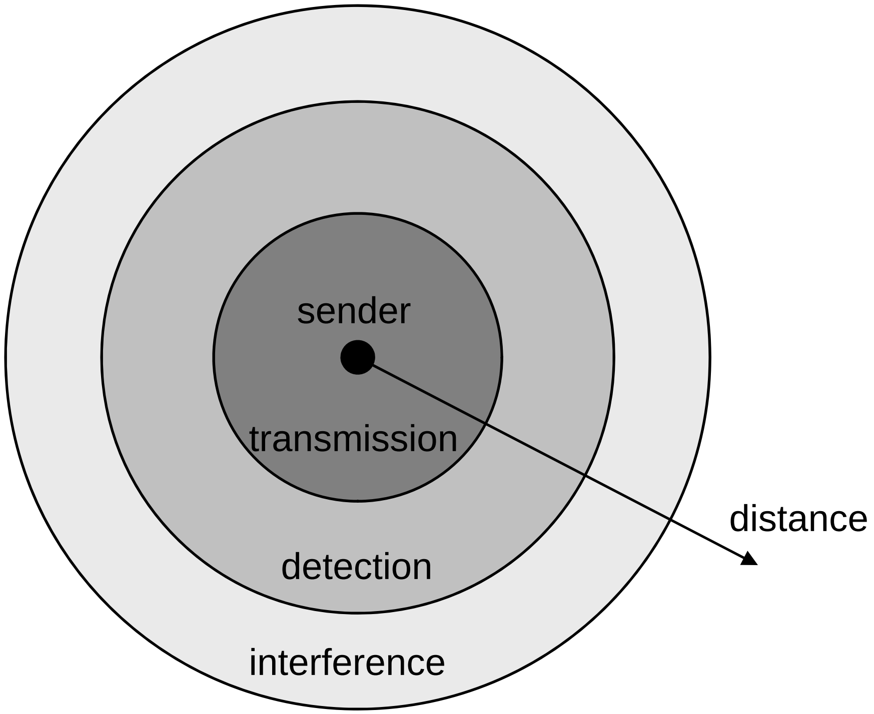
- communication possible
- low error rate

Detection range

- detection of the signal possible
- no communication possible

Interference range

- signal may not be detected
- signal adds to the background noise



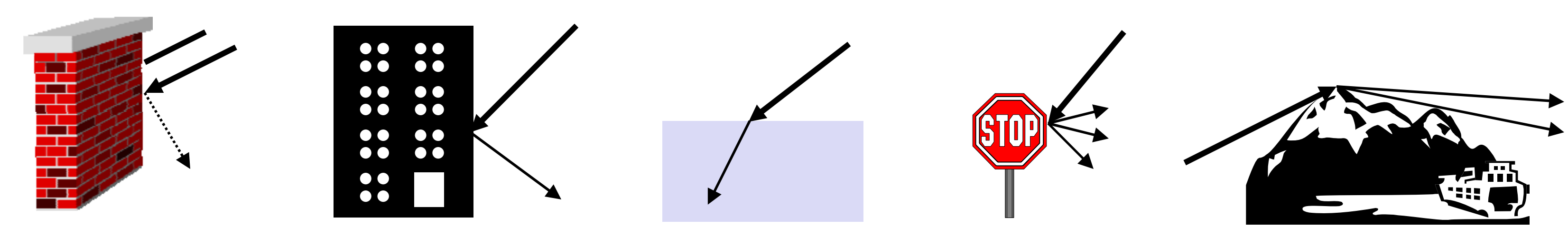
Signal propagation

Propagation in free space always like light (straight line)

Receiving power proportional to $1/d^2$ in vacuum – much more in real environments
(d = distance between sender and receiver)

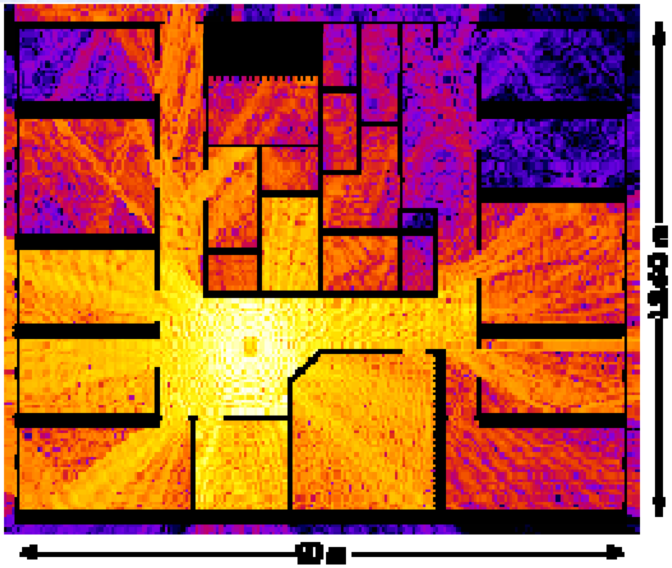
Receiving power additionally influenced by

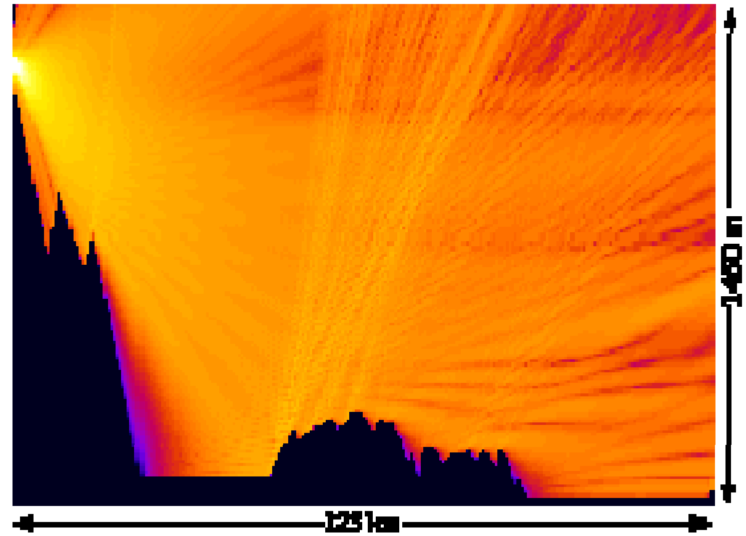
- fading (frequency dependent)
- shadowing
- reflection at large obstacles
- refraction depending on the density of a medium
- scattering at small obstacles
- diffraction at edges

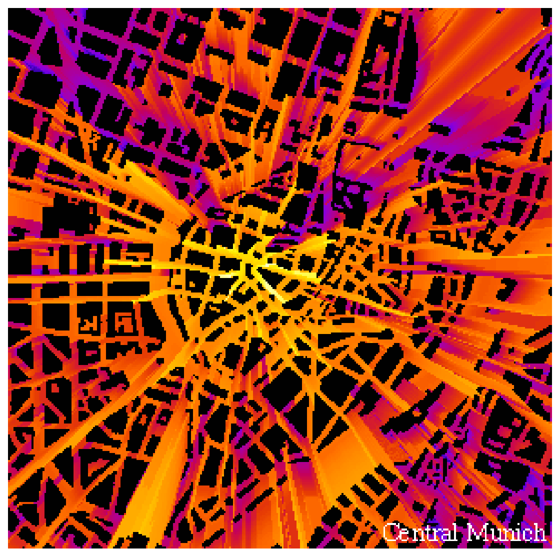


shadowing reflection refraction scattering diffraction

Real world example

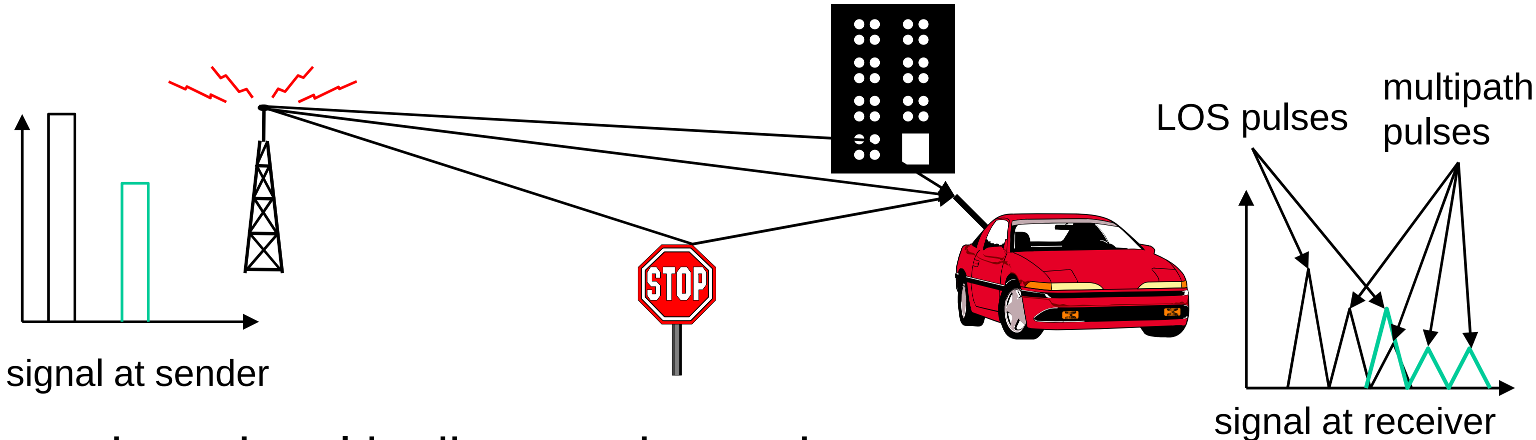






Multipath propagation

Signal can take many different paths between sender and receiver due to reflection, scattering, diffraction



Time dispersion: signal is dispersed over time

➔ interference with “neighbor” symbols, Inter Symbol Interference (ISI)

The signal reaches a receiver directly and phase shifted

➔ distorted signal depending on the phases of the different parts

Effects of mobility

Channel characteristics change over time and location

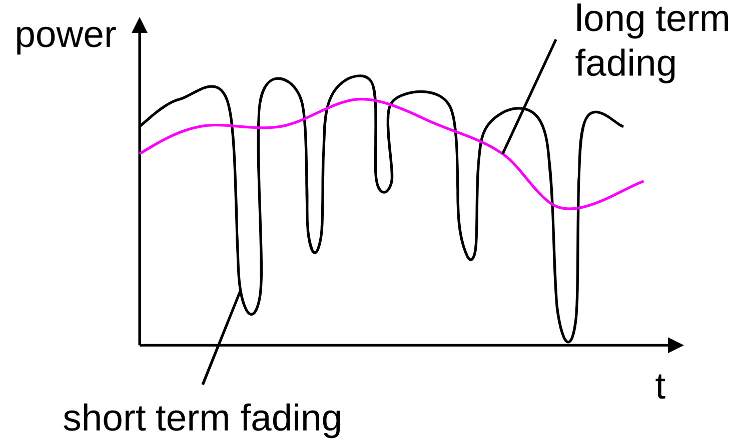
- signal paths change
- different delay variations of different signal parts
- different phases of signal parts

➔ quick changes in the power received (short term fading)

Additional changes in

- distance to sender
- obstacles further away

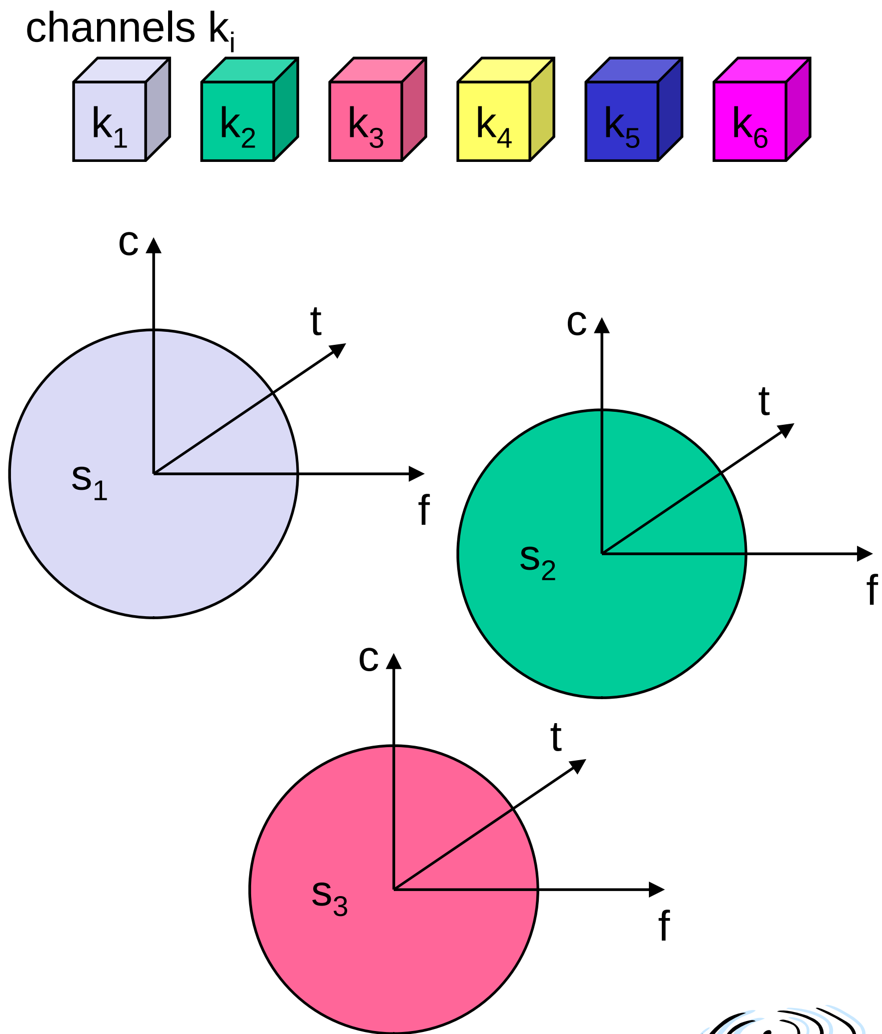
➔ slow changes in the average power received (long term fading)



Multiplexing

Multiplexing in 4 dimensions

- space (s_i)
- time (t)
- frequency (f)
- code (c)



Goal: multiple use
of a shared medium

Important: guard spaces needed!

Frequency multiplex

Separation of the whole spectrum into smaller frequency bands

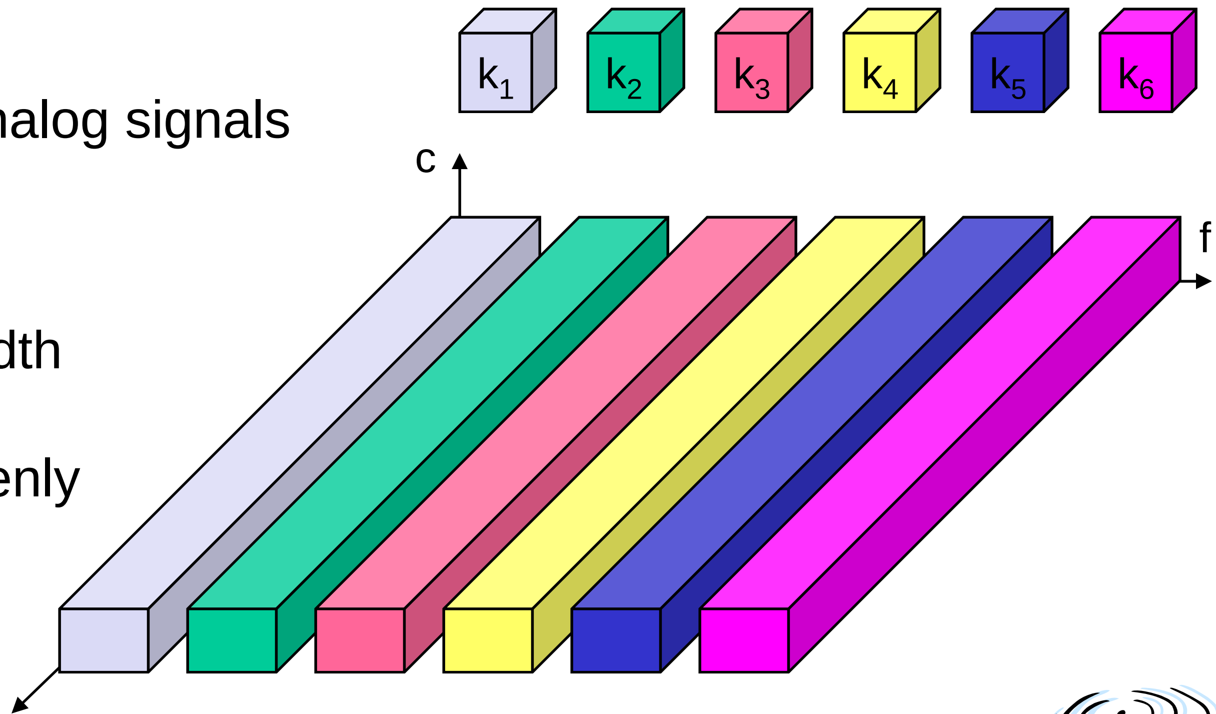
A channel gets a certain band of the spectrum for the whole time

Advantages:

- no dynamic coordination necessary
- works also for analog signals

Disadvantages:

- waste of bandwidth if the traffic is distributed unevenly
- inflexible
- guard spaces



Time multiplex

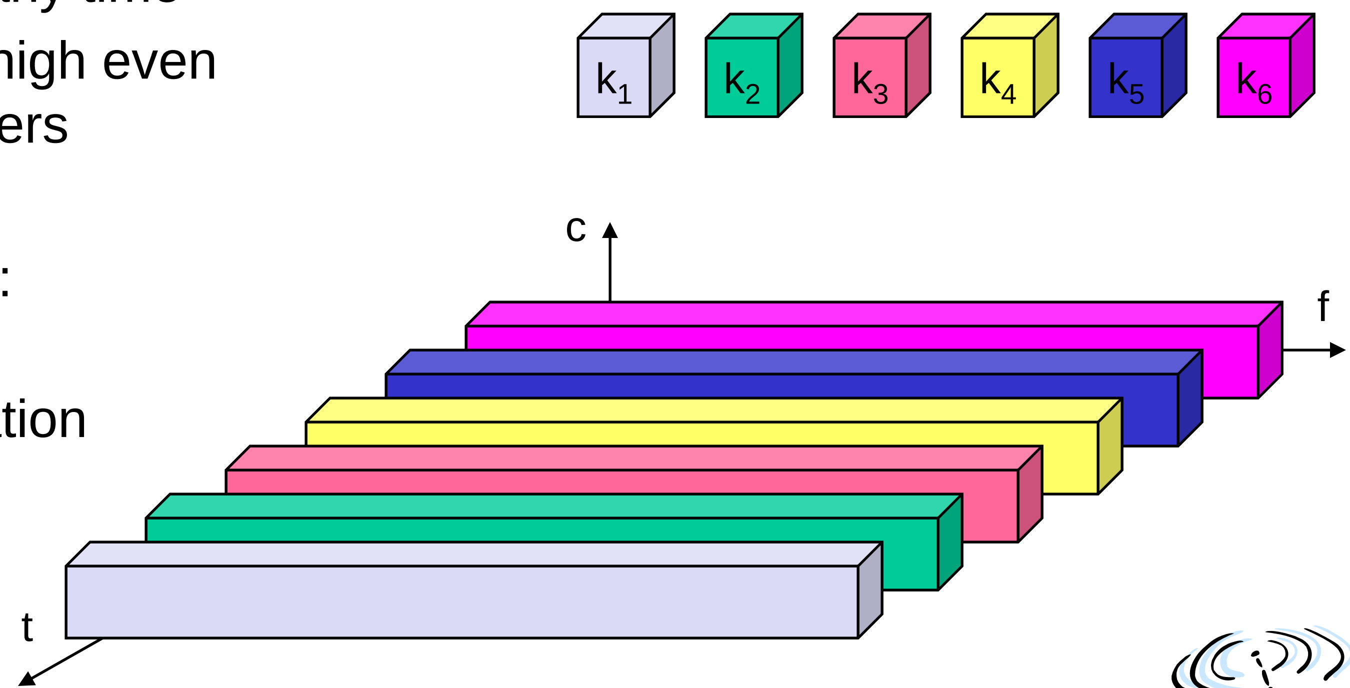
A channel gets the whole spectrum for a certain amount of time

Advantages:

- only one carrier in the medium at any time
- throughput high even for many users

Disadvantages:

- precise synchronization necessary



Time and frequency multiplex

Combination of both methods

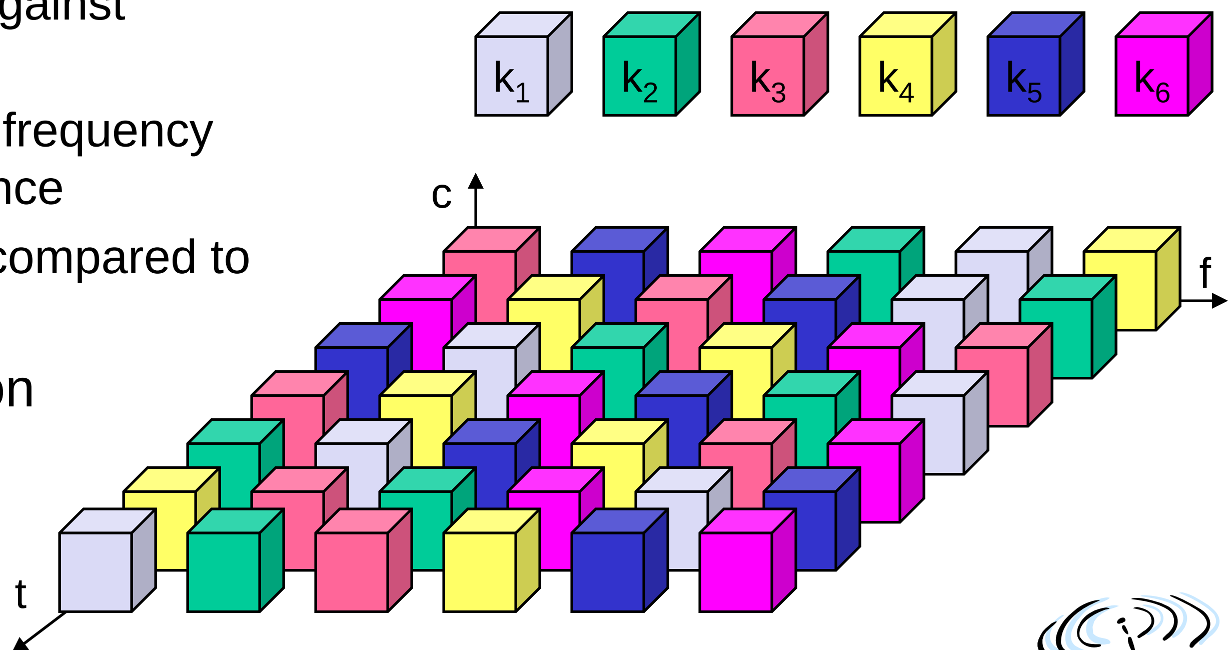
A channel gets a certain frequency band for a certain amount of time

Example: GSM

Advantages:

- better protection against tapping
- protection against frequency selective interference
- higher data rates compared to code multiplex

but: precise coordination required



Code multiplex

Each channel has a unique code

All channels use the same spectrum at the same time

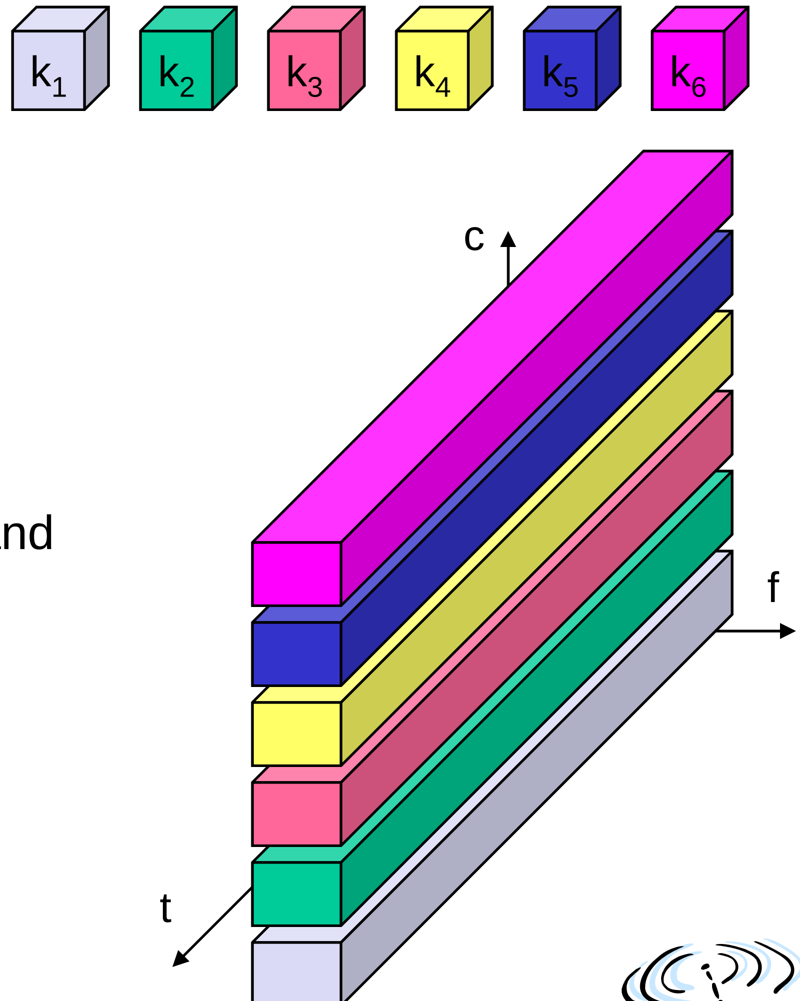
Advantages:

- bandwidth efficient
- no coordination and synchronization necessary
- good protection against interference and tapping

Disadvantages:

- lower user data rates
- more complex signal regeneration

Implemented using spread spectrum technology



Modulation

Digital modulation

- digital data is translated into an analog signal (baseband)
- ASK, FSK, PSK - main focus in this chapter
- differences in spectral efficiency, power efficiency, robustness

Analog modulation

- shifts center frequency of baseband signal up to the radio carrier

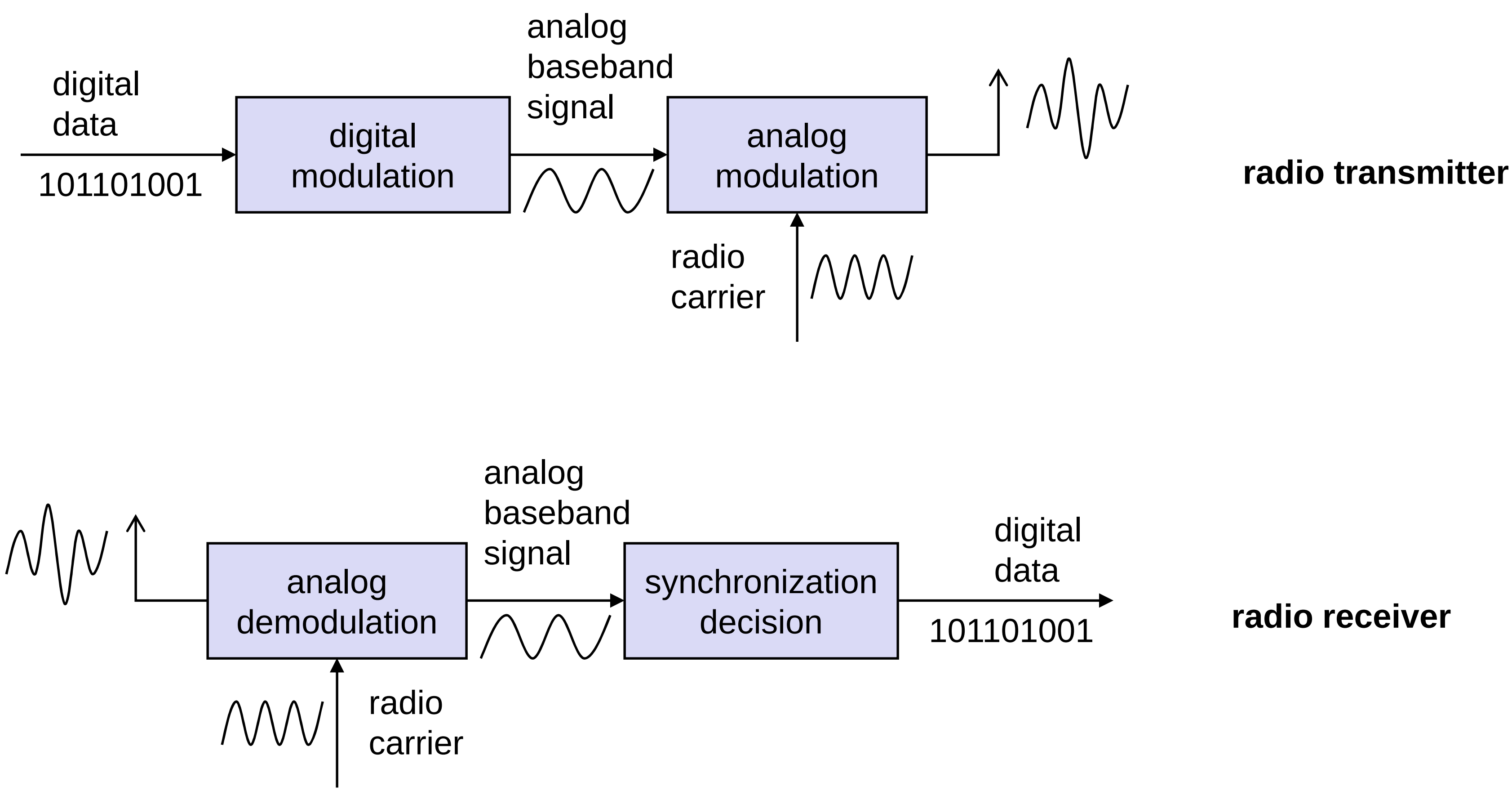
Motivation

- smaller antennas (e.g., $\lambda/4$)
- Frequency Division Multiplexing
- medium characteristics

Basic schemes

- Amplitude Modulation (AM)
- Frequency Modulation (FM)
- Phase Modulation (PM)

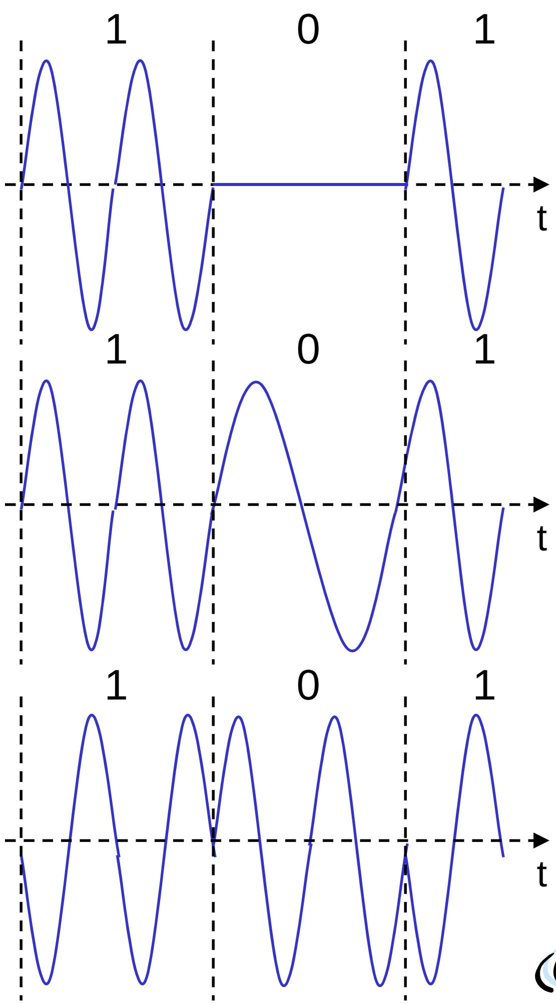
Modulation and demodulation



Digital modulation

Modulation of digital signals known as Shift Keying

- Amplitude Shift Keying (ASK):
  - very simple
  - low bandwidth requirements
  - very susceptible to interference
- Frequency Shift Keying (FSK):
  - needs larger bandwidth
- Phase Shift Keying (PSK):
  - more complex
  - robust against interference

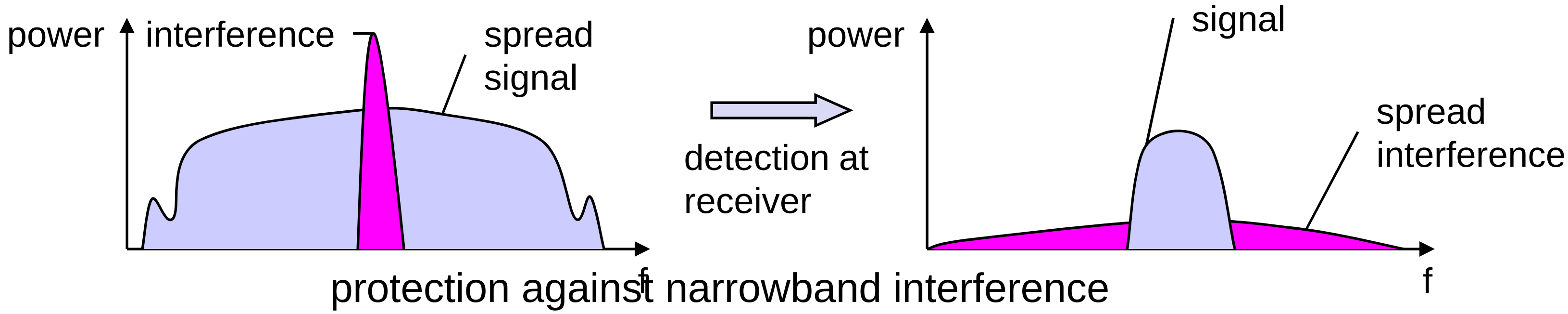


Spread spectrum technology

Problem of radio transmission: frequency dependent fading can wipe out narrow band signals for duration of the interference

Solution: spread the narrow band signal into a broad band signal using a special code

protection against narrow band interference



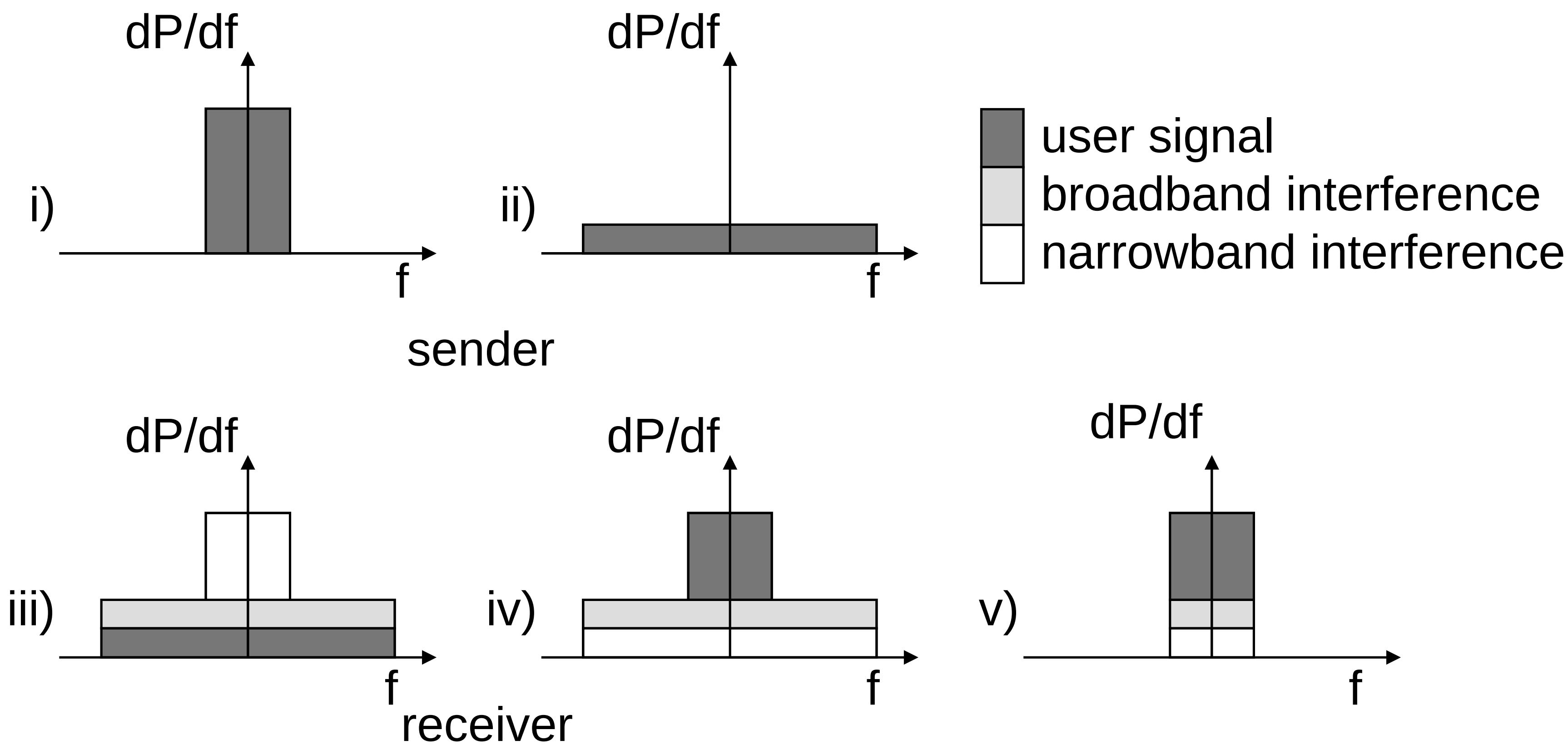
protection against narrowband interference

Side effects:

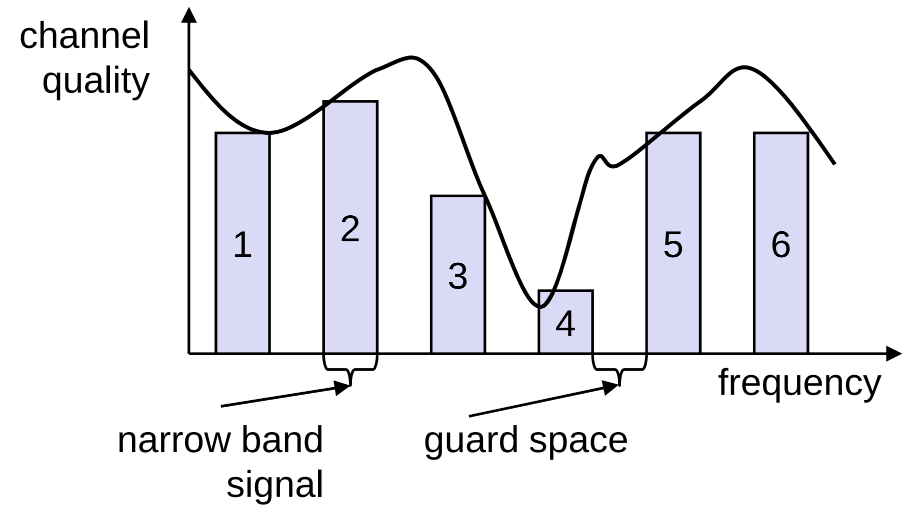
- coexistence of several signals without dynamic coordination
- tap-proof

Alternatives: Direct Sequence, Frequency Hopping

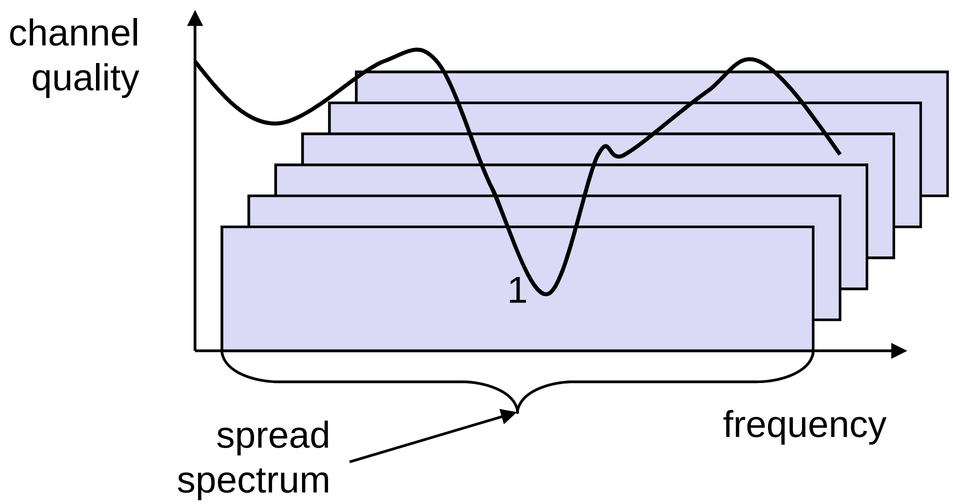
Effects of spreading and interference



Spreading and frequency selective fading



narrowband channels



spread spectrum channels

DSSS (Direct Sequence Spread Spectrum) I

XOR of the signal with pseudo-random number (chipping sequence)

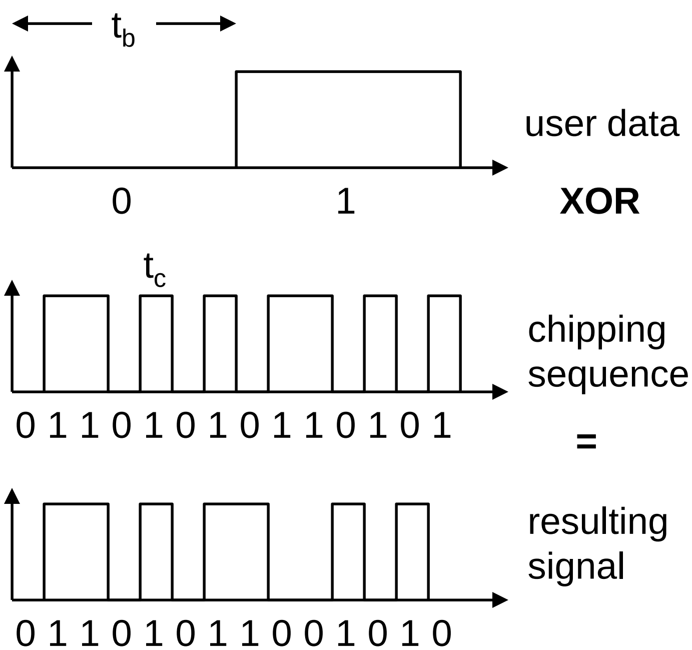
- many chips per bit (e.g., 128) result in higher bandwidth of the signal

Advantages

- reduces frequency selective fading
- in cellular networks
  - base stations can use the same frequency range
  - several base stations can detect and recover the signal
  - soft handover

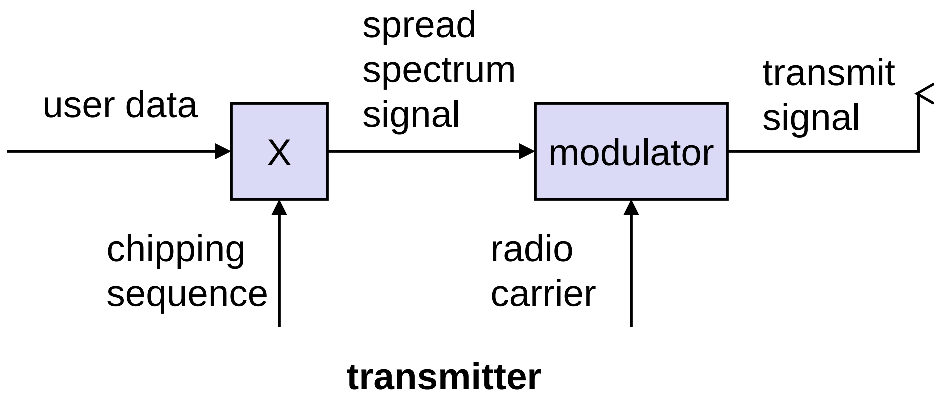
Disadvantages

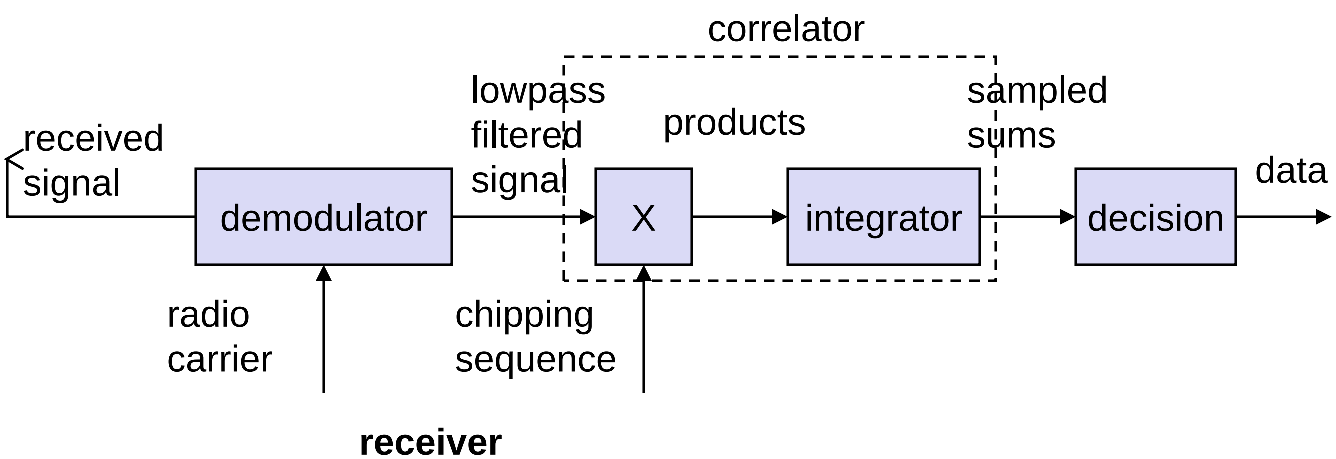
- precise power control necessary



t_b: bit period
t_c: chip period

DSSS (Direct Sequence Spread Spectrum) II





FHSS (Frequency Hopping Spread Spectrum) I

Discrete changes of carrier frequency

- sequence of frequency changes determined via pseudo random number sequence

Two versions

- Fast Hopping:
  several frequencies per user bit
- Slow Hopping:
  several user bits per frequency

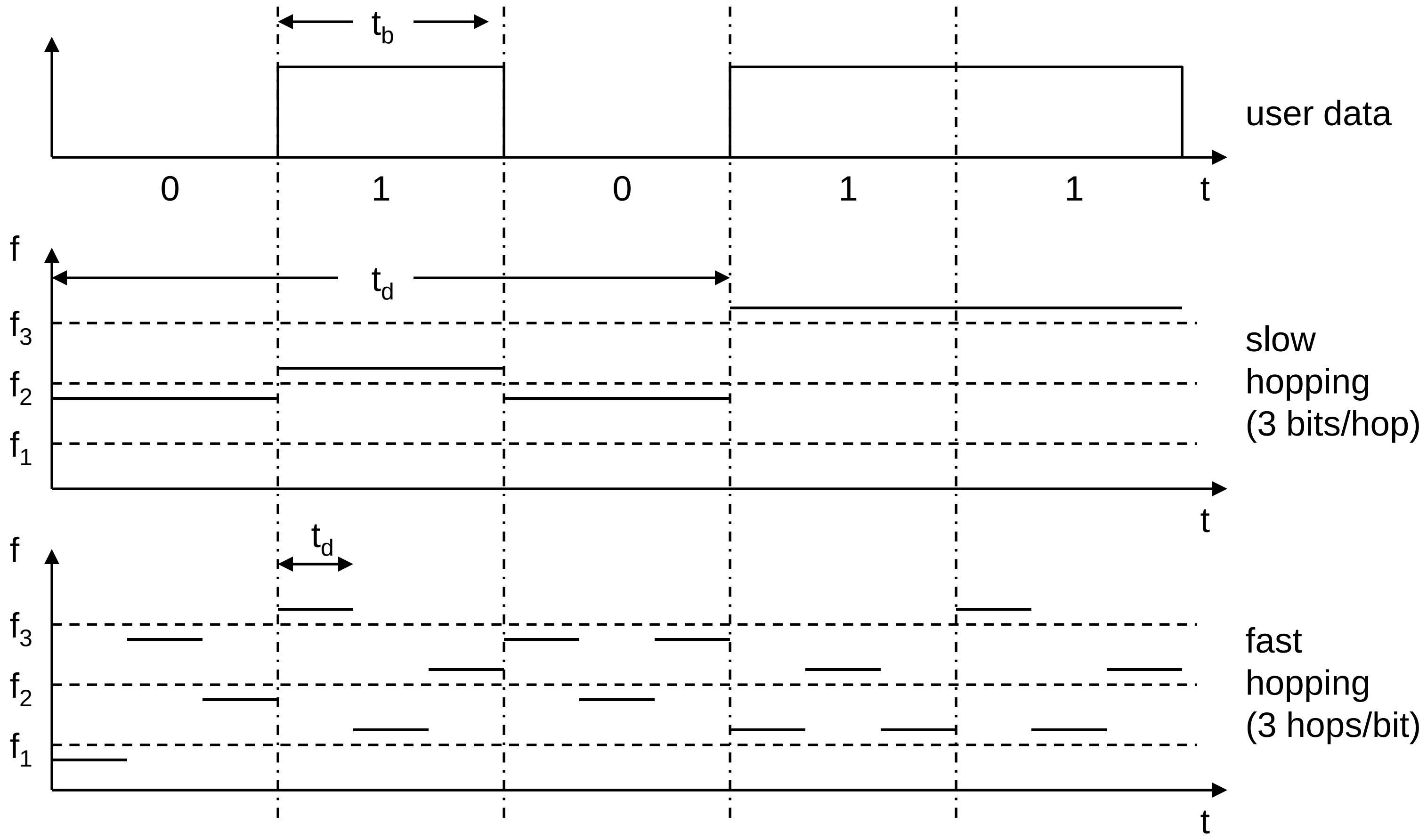
Advantages

- frequency selective fading and interference limited to short period
- simple implementation
- uses only small portion of spectrum at any time

Disadvantages

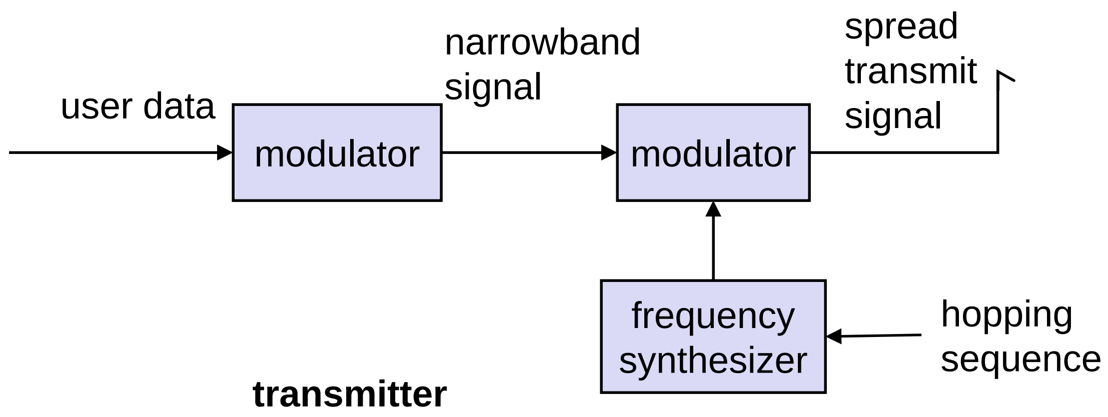
- not as robust as DSSS
- simpler to detect

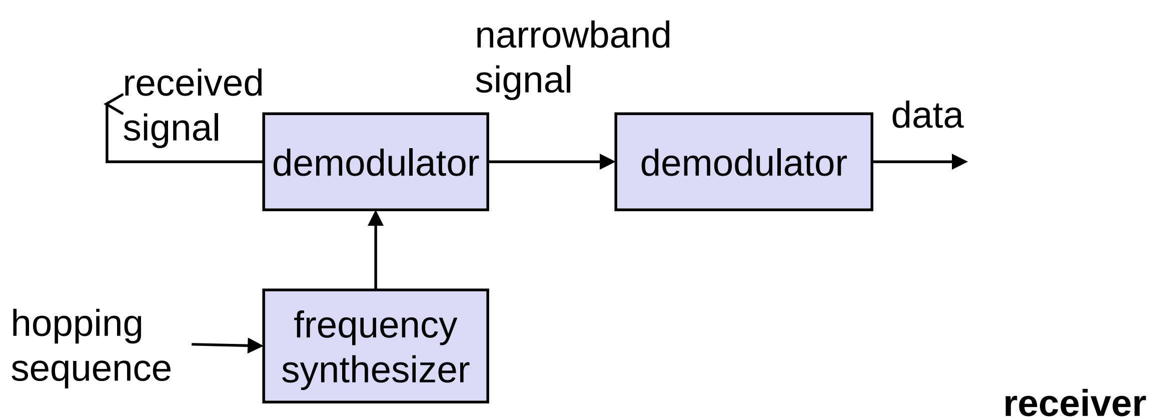
FHSS (Frequency Hopping Spread Spectrum) II



t_b: bit period t_d: dwell time

FHSS (Frequency Hopping Spread Spectrum) III





Cell structure

Implements space division multiplex: base station covers a certain transmission area (cell)

Mobile stations communicate only via the base station

Advantages of cell structures:

- higher capacity, higher number of users
- less transmission power needed
- more robust, decentralized
- base station deals with interference, transmission area etc. locally

Problems:

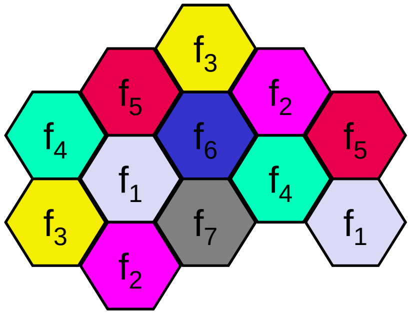
- fixed network needed for the base stations
- handover (changing from one cell to another) necessary
- interference with other cells

Cell sizes from some 100 m in cities to, e.g., 35 km on the country side (GSM) - even less for higher frequencies

Frequency planning I

Frequency reuse only with a certain distance between the base stations

Standard model using 7 frequencies:



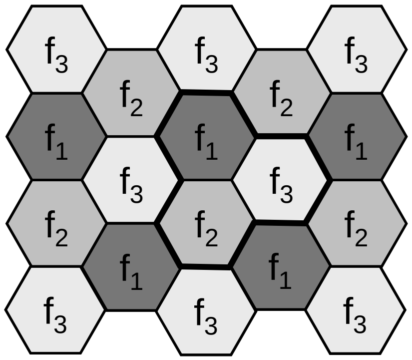
Fixed frequency assignment:

- certain frequencies are assigned to a certain cell
- problem: different traffic load in different cells

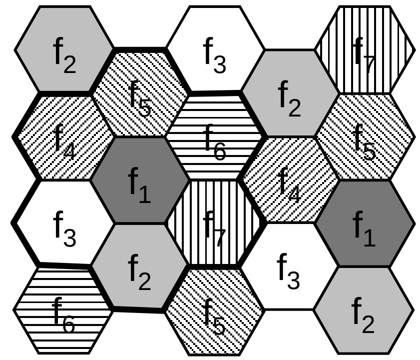
Dynamic frequency assignment:

- base station chooses frequencies depending on the frequencies already used in neighbor cells
- more capacity in cells with more traffic
- assignment can also be based on interference measurements

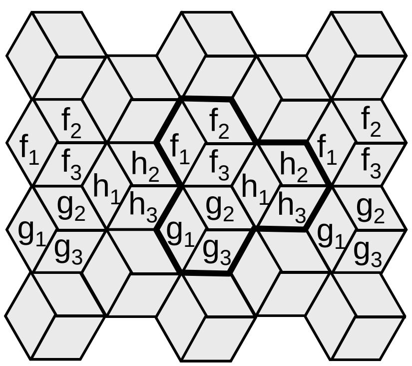
Frequency planning II



3 cell cluster



7 cell cluster



3 cell cluster
with 3 sector antennas

Cell breathing

CDM systems: cell size depends on current load

Additional traffic appears as noise to other users

If the noise level is too high users drop out of cells