

Disruptive Analysis

Don't Assume

Future Demand for Indoor Connectivity & Spectrum

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Dean Bubley & Disruptive Analysis @disruptivedean

- Tech/telecom analyst & strategic consulting since 1991
- Covering Internet, 5G, 6G, Spectrum, FTTX, Wi-Fi, Edge/Cloud...
- Regulatory, economic, societal & geopolitical aspects of telecoms
- Advisor to telcos, large & small vendors, investors, government
- Biases: Against monopolies, lazy incumbency & hype



Network Tech, Policy & Business Models



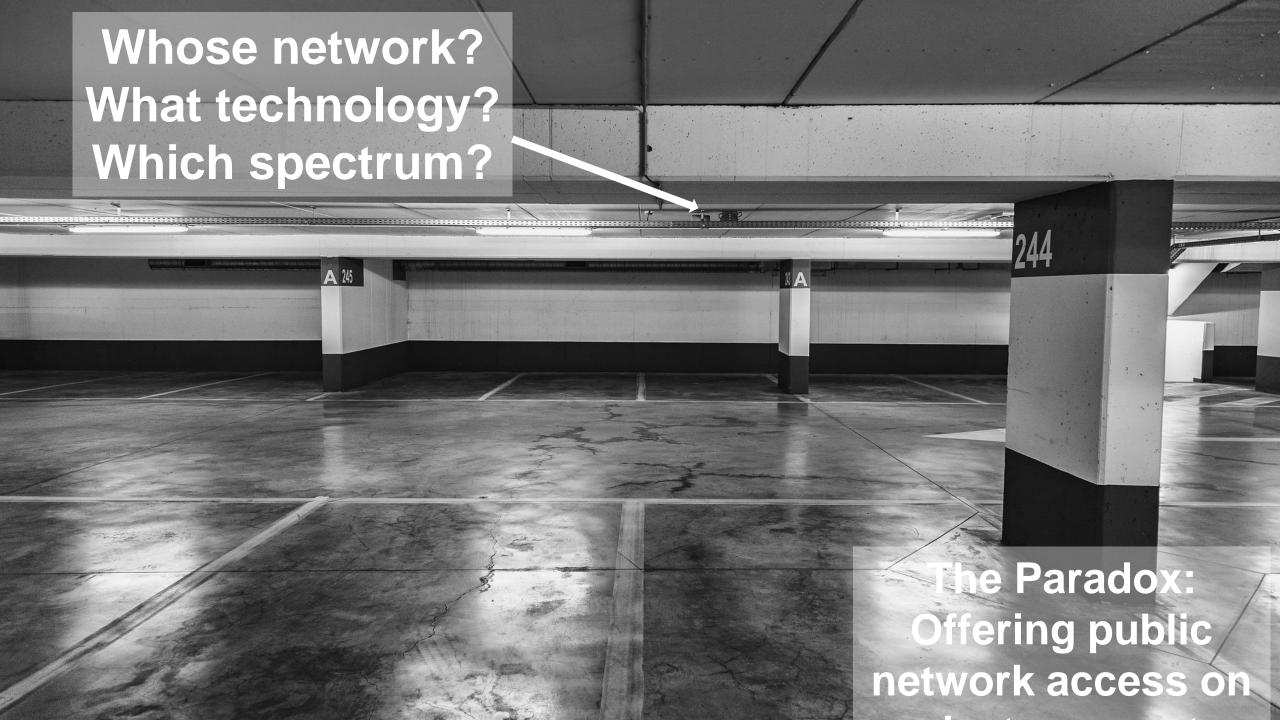
Communications Apps & Services



Telecom-Futurism

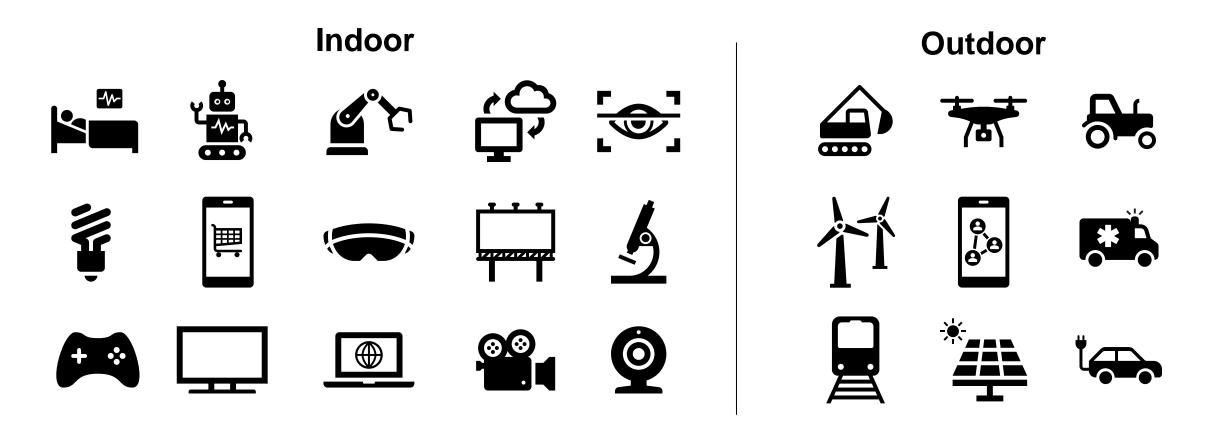


Industry Analyst
Consulting &
Reports





Many new B2B/B2C use-cases, apps & devices are indoors

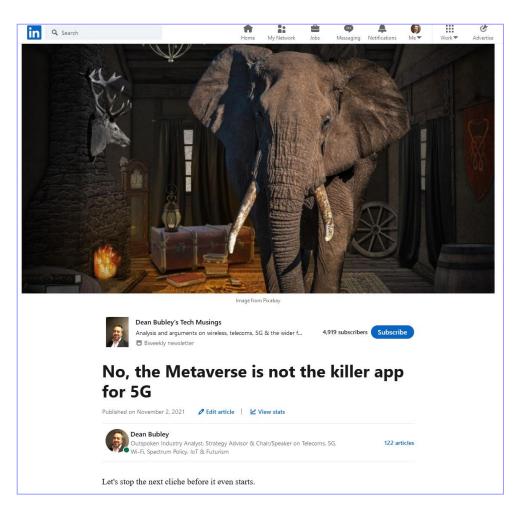


Multiple implications for positioning & timing

Telecoms vs. Pericoms underlying differences



Demanding use-cases mostly indoors



- Immersive experiences with off-device graphics rendering
- Deterministic latency eg industrial
- Dense grids of radios (eg in MDUs)
- Need for 80MHz+ channels with frequency reuse – implies full 6GHz band available
- Wireless multi-gigabit point-to-point where fibre impractical, eg using mmWave
- Easier auto-attachment eg OpenRoaming
- Non-mainstream networking uses eg sensing / radar, specialist protocols for IoT, AV etc



Many enterprise indoor environments & user/device types











Indoor Wi-Fi/4G/5G may overlap, but most sites need all

New applications & business models IoT, wholesale... but complex to work indoors OK

Cellular – 5G evolving to R16/17/18... 6G Public + Private 4G & 5G

Lots of options, innovation, but also hype & tech politics

Wi-Fi – **Evolving to 6, 6E, 7, 60GHz....**

New use-cases & solutions – but different user journeys & management / IT involvement

2020

2021

2022

2023

2024

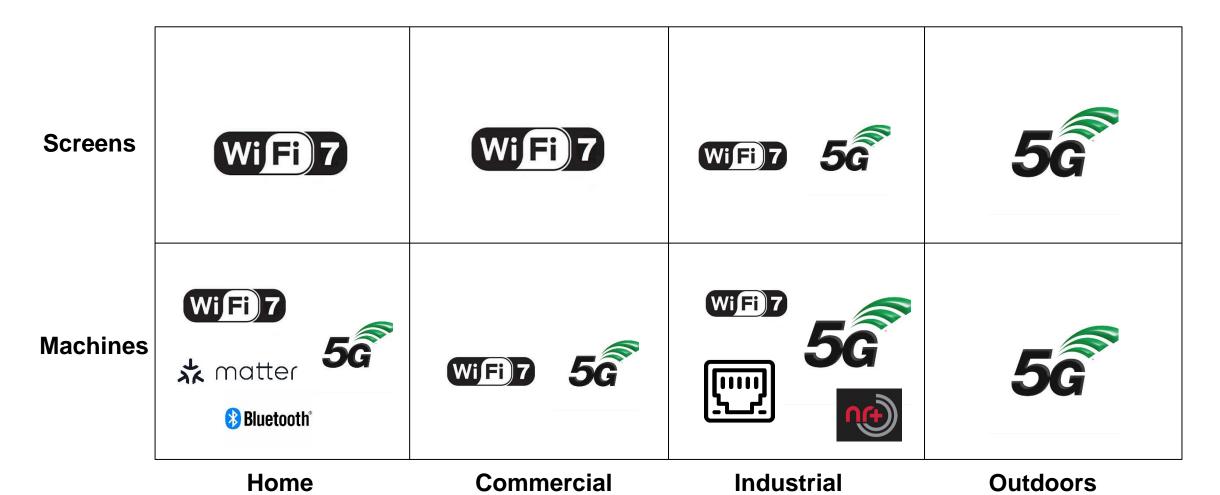
2025

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2030

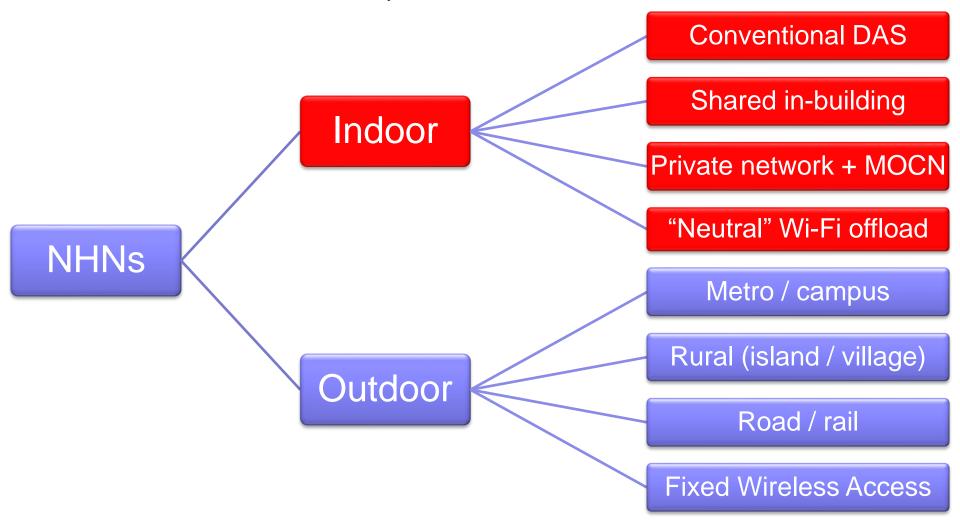


WiFi7 vs. 5G Release 17





Neutral host networks (wholesale infra to tenant MNOs)



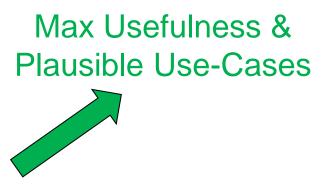


6G approaching a fork in the road

Max Performance & Extreme Use-Cases







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Policy & regulatory considerations

- Excellent news that recent DSIT WIS mentioned indoor connectivity
- Ideally should be a specific "Indoor Wireless" vision & policy
 - ☐ For residential, enterprise, public-sector, venues etc
- Spectrum
 - Automation for local/shared access licenses for Private 4G/5G
 - Need for 6GHz for WiFi6E/7/8 & 5G NR-U
 - □ Consider shared band for indoor 5G (similar to China 3.3GHz)
 - □ Monitor adoption of 26GHz / 60GHz & tweak rules if needed
- Indoor coverage targets (eg gigabit to every room)
- Fund testbeds / competitions for indoor (5G, WiFi, DECT, other)
- Ensure low barriers for neutral-host, Wi-Fi offload & roaming etc
- Opportunistic use of indoor wireless by emergency services
- Push for 6G to be "indoor primary" by design
- Foster a UK domestic industry for indoor wireless (Open RAN, WiFi, etc)