

From Wireline to Wireless Broadband

Prof. Dina Katabi

Director of the MIT Center for Wireless Networks
and Mobile Computing (Wireless@MIT)



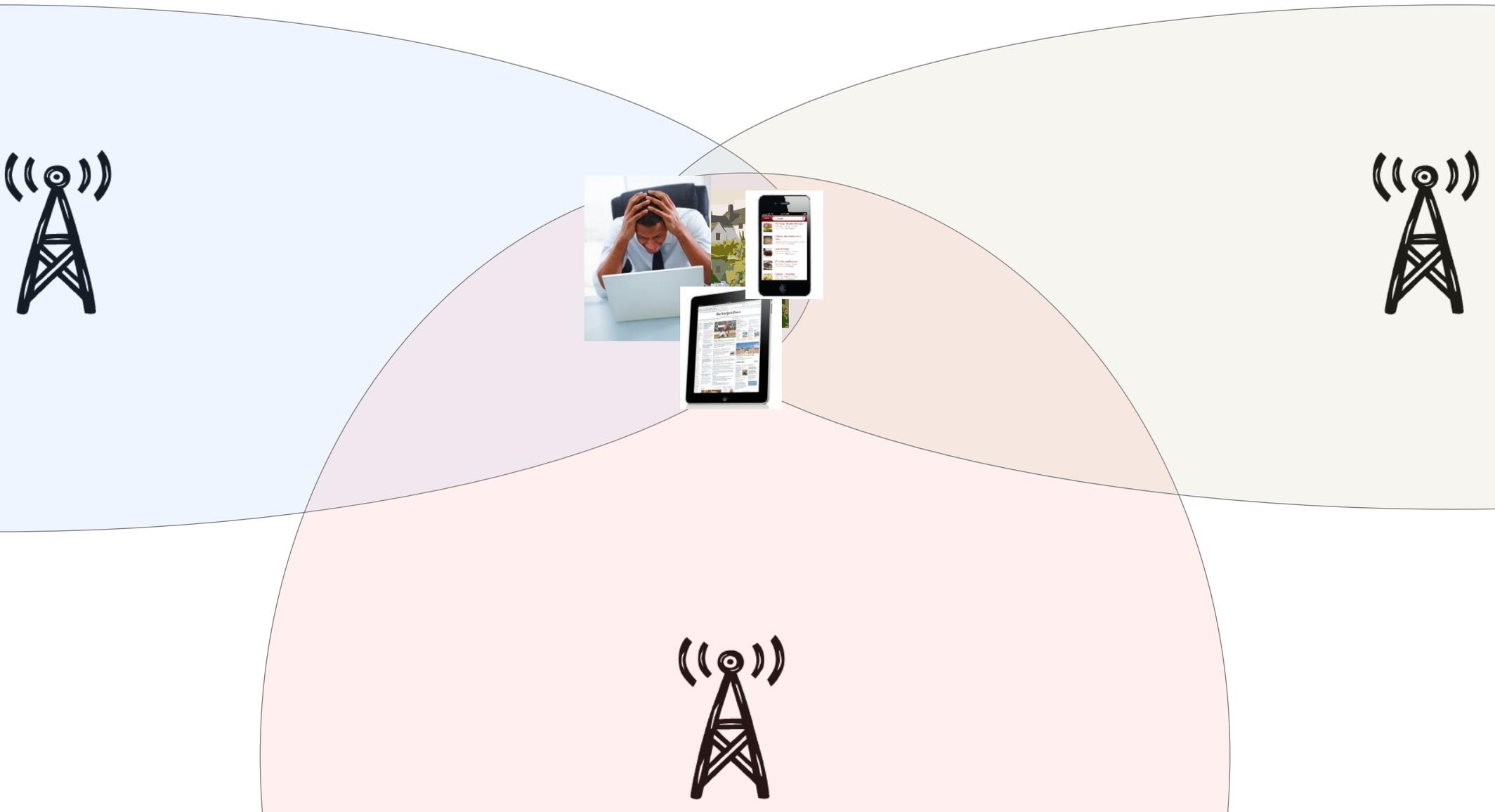
Can Wireless Replace Wireline Broadband, Particularly in Rural Areas?

- Technologically can deliver high-capacity to communities with no wireline connectivity
 - 3G or 4G alone will not do
 - Need to deploy innovative technologies

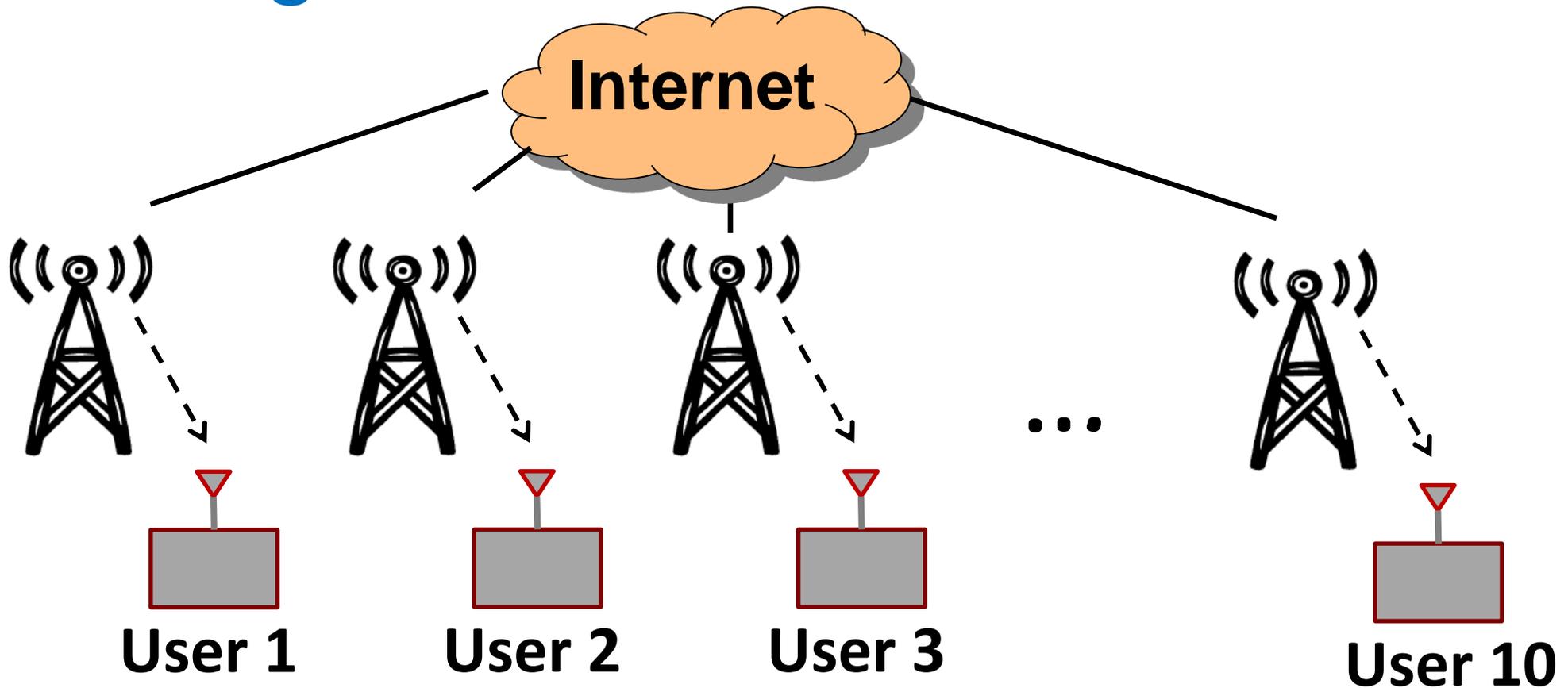
High-Capacity Technologies

- Get the best out of the spectrum you have
 - Interference Alignment
 - Distributed MIMO -- MegaMIMO
- Dynamic spectrum sharing
 - GHz realtime low-cost spectrum sensing

What if many base stations coordinate and act as a powerful distributed MegaMIMO base station?



MegaMIMO: Distributed MIMO



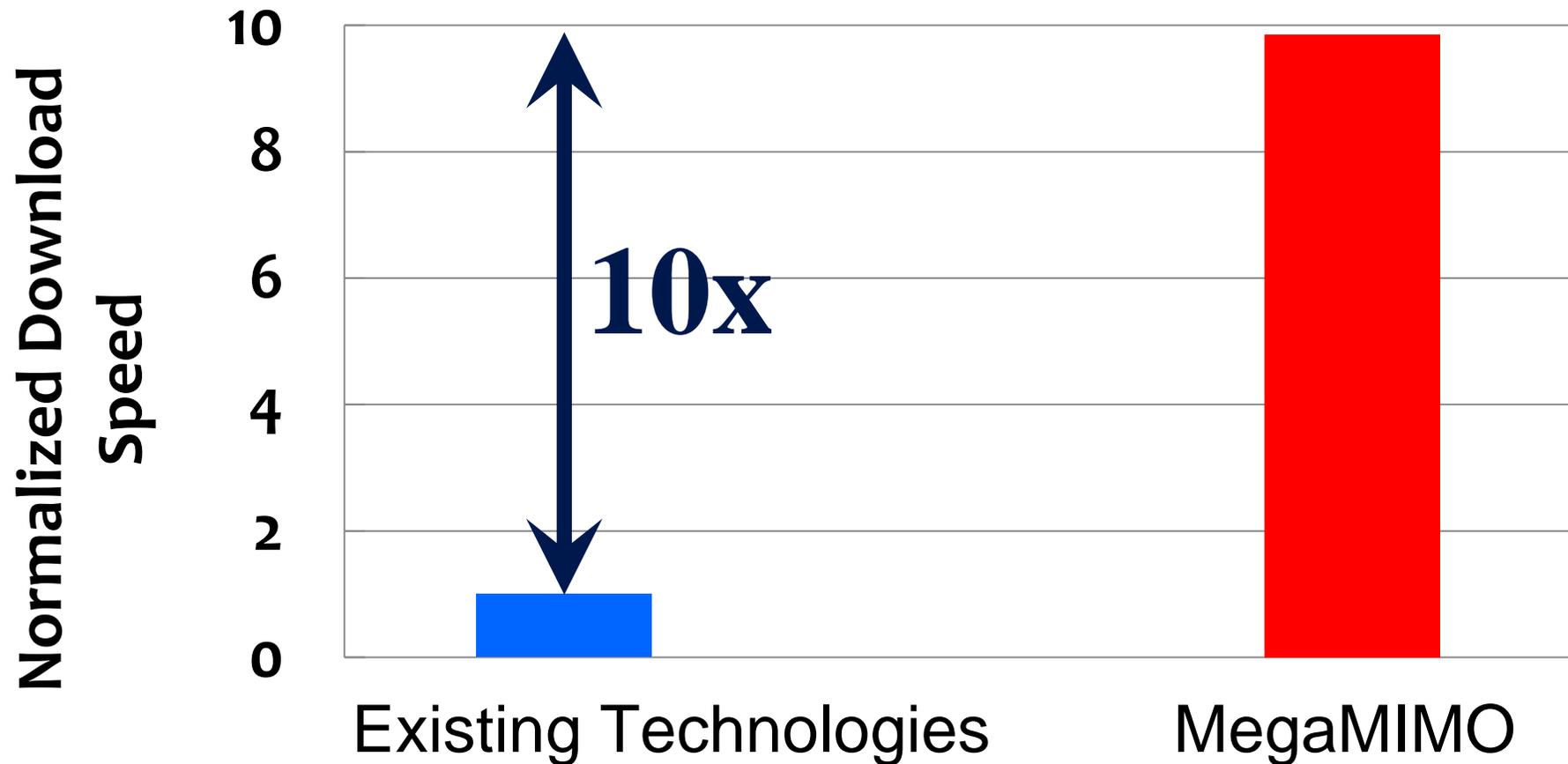
MegaMIMO enables BSs to act as a huge MIMO transmitter with sum of antennas

10 BSs on same band → 10x higher throughput

Testbed of Software Radios



Results from In-Lab Prototype



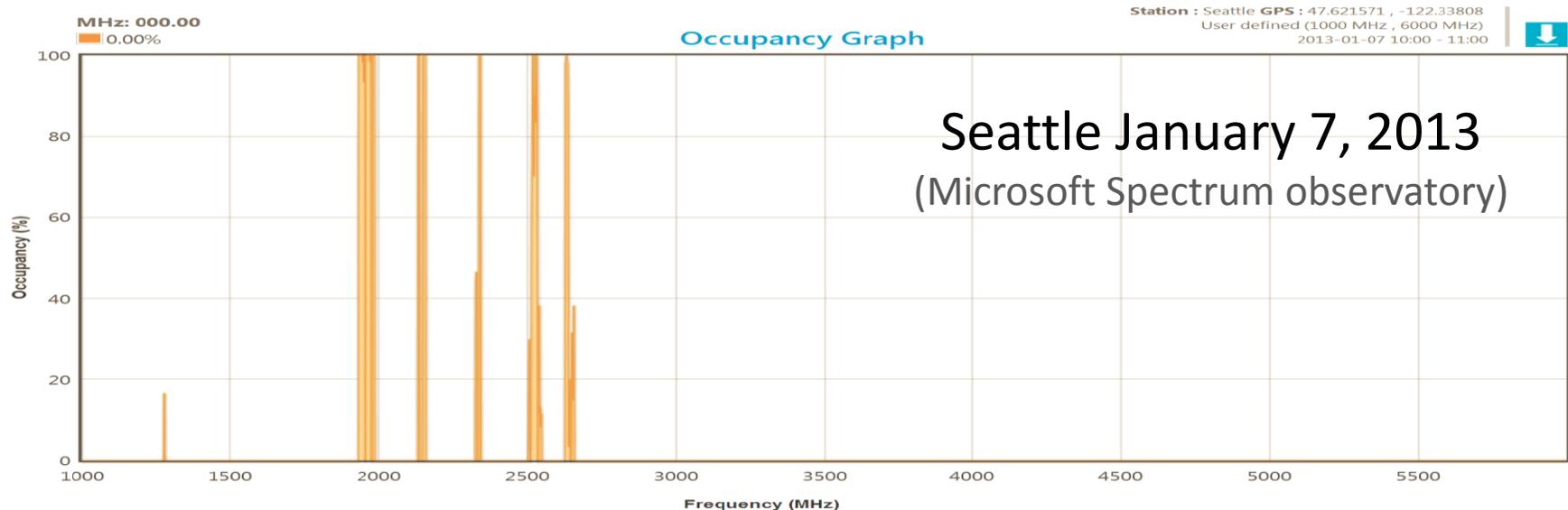
10x gain in actual data rates (not maximum theoretical)

groups.csail.mit.edu/netmit/wordpress/projects/

GHz Realtime Low-Cost Spectrum Sensing

- Today, can't capture very wide spectrum in realtime
- Sequential scanning of tens of MHz
 - ➔ Can easily miss radar signals

Idea: Leverage Sparsity



Sparse recovery show that one can acquire sparse signals using sub-Nyquist sampling

Sparse FFT

Winner of TR10, 2012 (Technology Review); Featured in IEEE Spectrum, Discover magazine, BBC radio, Slashdot, ...

<http://groups.csail.mit.edu/netmit/sFFT/>

Benefits of Sparse FFT

- Sub-sample the data → Can use low-speed ADCs
- Very fast algorithm → Lower-power consumption



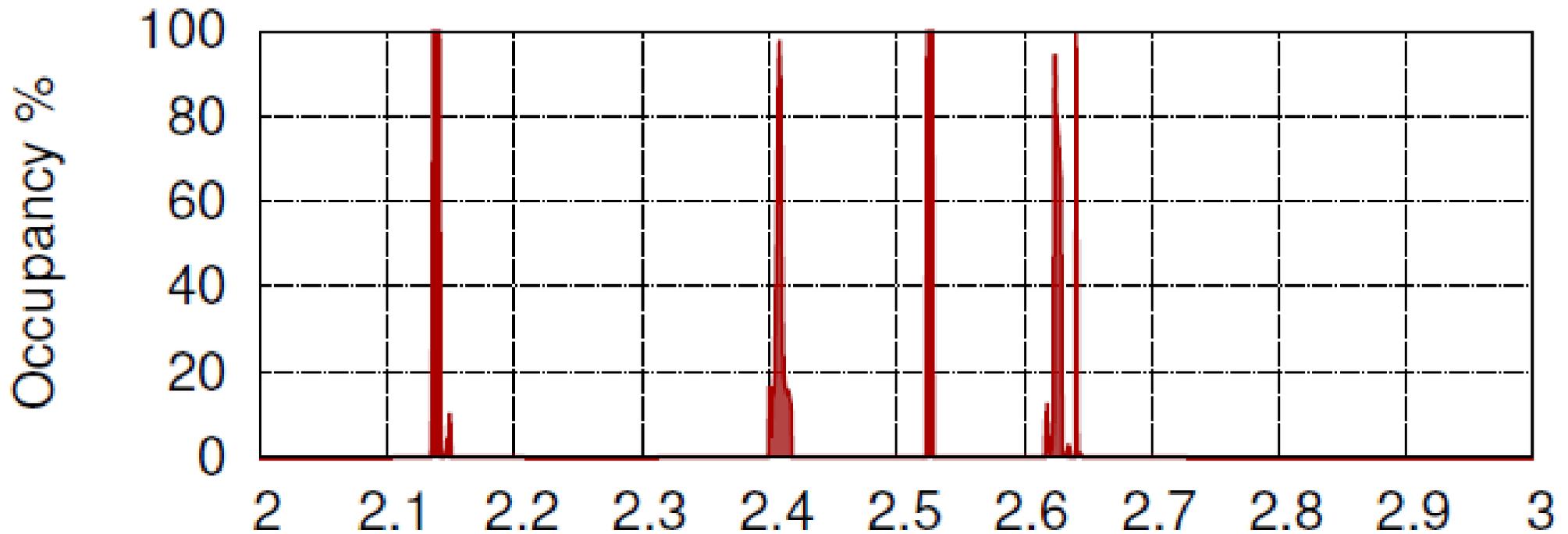
- Used sparse FFT to build a GHz receiver from three 50 MHz software radio
- Both senses and decodes sparse spectrum



Realtime GHz Spectrum Sensing

Cambridge, MA January 18 2013

Occupancy from 2GHz to 3GHz (10 ms FFT window)



sFFT enables realtime low-cost GHz sensing and decoding