



# Home Networking On Coax for Video and Multimedia

## Overview for IEEE 802.1AVB

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# Outline:

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- **What is MoCA?**
- **MoCA home usage model**
- **MoCA MAC/PHY features**
- **Field test results**
- **Summary**

# About MoCA



- MoCA's Mission

*To develop and promote specifications and certify interoperable products that enable distribution of entertainment within the home using the existing in-home coaxial cabling*

- Board of Directors

- ▶ Comcast, Cox, Echostar, Entropic, Linksys, Motorola, Panasonic, RadioShack, Toshiba, Verizon

- MoCA Activities

- ▶ Develop technical specifications, validate through field tests, certify MoCA enabled products as interoperable, and ensure access to necessary intellectual property for all members on reasonable and non-discriminatory terms

- Join MoCA: <http://www.mocalliance.org/en/join/index.asp>

# Drivers for Home Multimedia Networks

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- Cable operator whole-home DVR and triple play
- DBS whole-home DVR
- Telco “triple-play”: video, voice, data
- Retail
  - ▶ Home server & client for multimedia
  - ▶ DVD-DVR combo
  - ▶ Media Center PC to Media Center Extender/TV
  - ▶ Backbone for Wi-Fi

# Multimedia Throughput Needs



- **Data rate**

- ▶ Simultaneous multiple HDTV,SDTV, data, voice, gaming, ...

|      | Ave Mbps | Peak Mbps | Trick mode Mbps |
|------|----------|-----------|-----------------|
| SDTV | 1-2.5    | 2 - 9     | 4 – 20          |
| HDTV | 8 - 20   | 8 - 25    | 8 – 40+         |
| ATSC | 20       | 20        | 20 – 40+        |

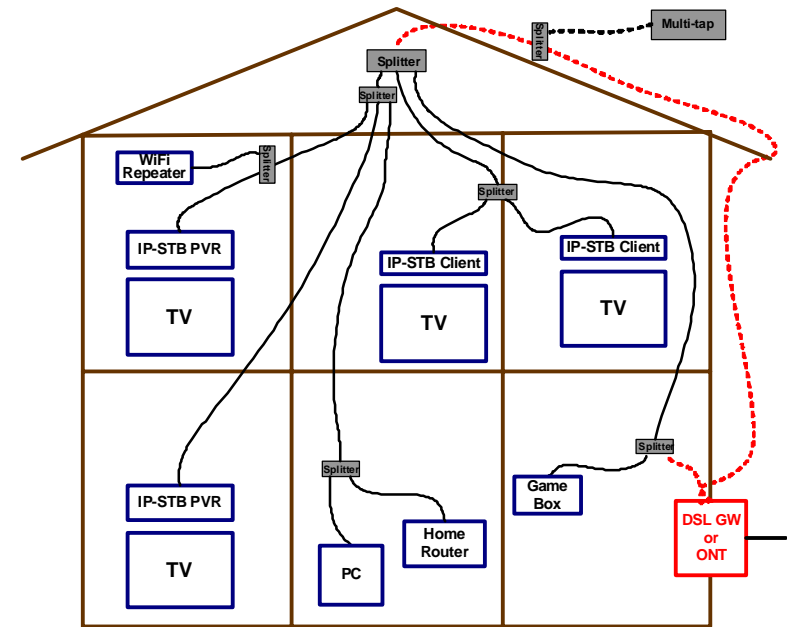
- ▶ Customers ask MoCA for 60 to 100+ Mbps net throughput

- **Quality & reliability**

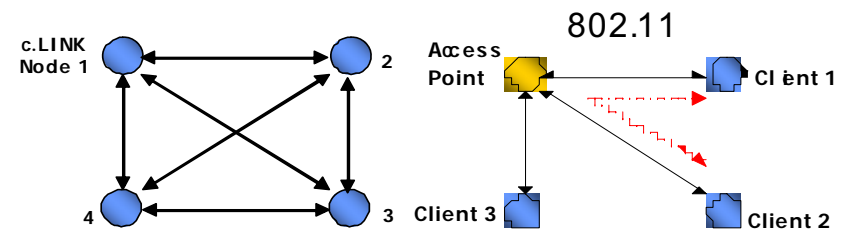
- ▶ Does not degrade when other services are added
- ▶ Does not degrade when neighbor or housemate runs services
- ▶ Does not degrade when home appliances are turned on

# The Home Usage Model And Connectivity

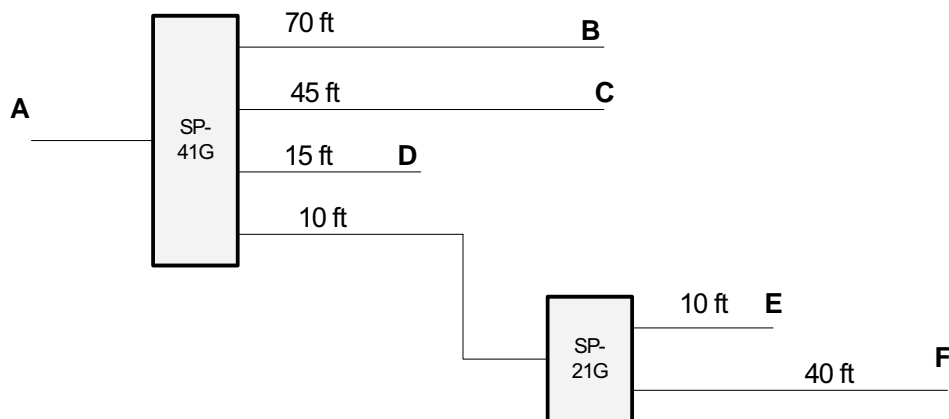
- Each room can be a source and sink of multi-media content
- Consumers may
  - ▶ Move equipment to other rooms
  - ▶ Add a cable or splitter
- Mandatory connectivity model
  - ▶ Room-to-room, peer-to-peer, full mesh, all outlets source and sink
  - ▶ Backwards through splitters
- MoCA is the only technology that provides no-excuses networking room-to-room over in-home coax as is



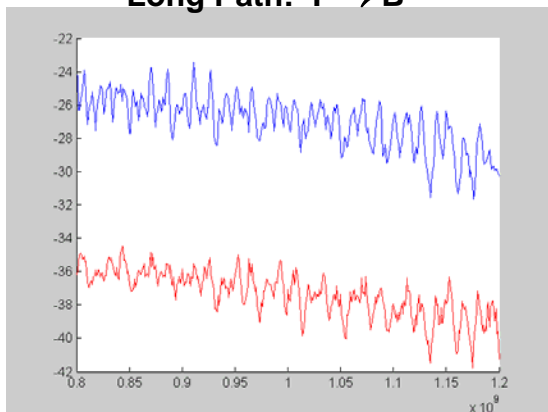
**Connectivity Model**  
Desirable      Not Desirable



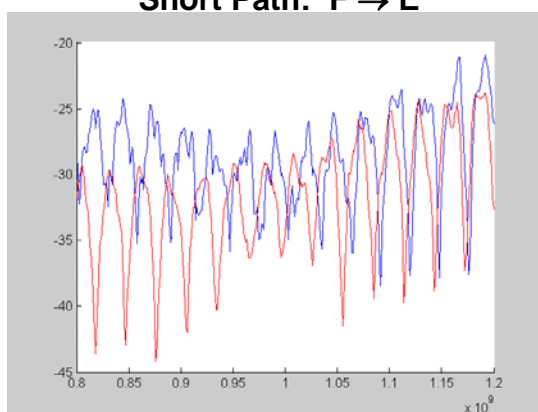
# MoCA Channel Characteristics



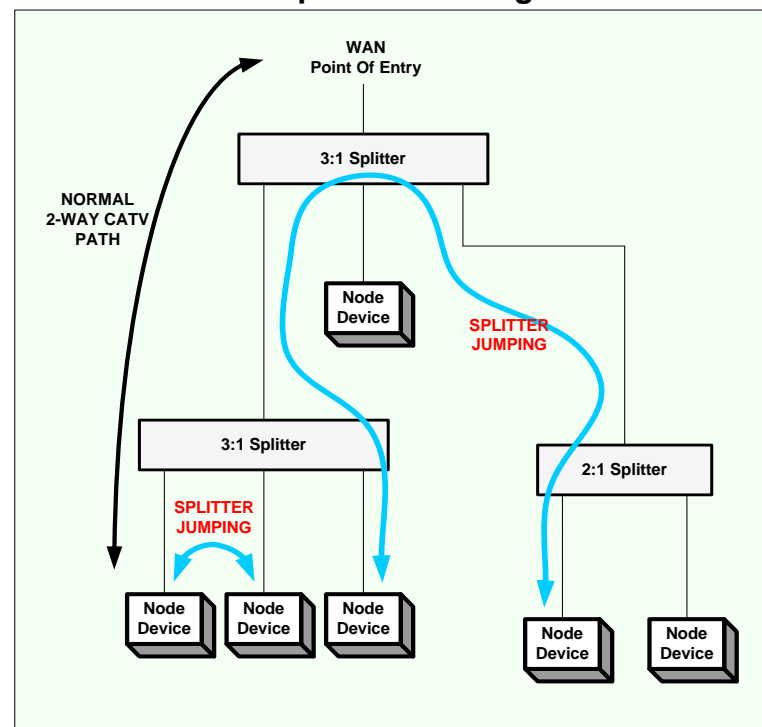
Frequency Response  
Long Path: F → B



Frequency Response  
Short Path: F → E



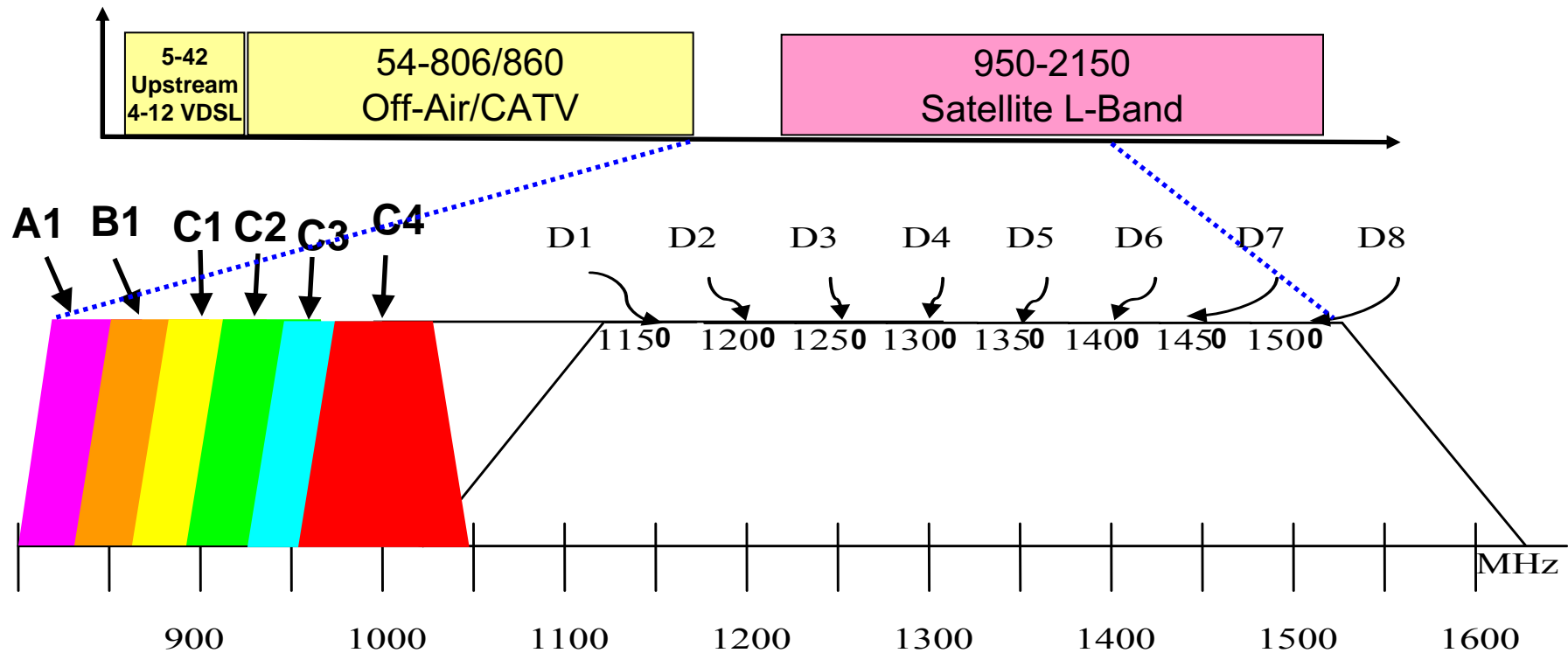
Room-to-room characteristics dictate and require a custom PHY/MAC solution for ubiquitous coverage



# Coexistence with Other Services



- Coexistence with other services is required
  - Cable modem upstream (5-42 MHz)
  - Cable operator downstream (50-860 MHz)
- Coax and splitters support reliable communications above 860 MHz





# MoCA PHY Layer Features



- 50 MHz MoCA channel bandwidth
- 224 OFDM subcarriers signal where each subcarrier can be modulated from BPSK to 256-QAM
- Adaptive bitloading OFDM at the transmitter
- PHY layer packets are R-S encoded for error recovery
- Three different probes are used to characterize the MoCA channel condition
- Four types of preambles are used for different PHY data packets to optimize throughput
- MoCA channels are located at different frequency bands between 875 MHz to 1500 MHz
- Robust PHY layer transmissions ( $PER \leq 10^{-5}$ ) over coax using Time-Division Duplexing (TDD)
- PHY data rate in a two-node MoCA network  $> 250$  Mb/s

# MoCA MAC Layer Features



- Distributed mesh network architecture with TDMA based scheduled access
- MoCA network support communications from 2 to 8 nodes
- Any MoCA node can become a Network Coordinator (NC) node – automatically selected
- NC node broadcasts beacons every 10 ms
- Network access is coordinated using MAPs and reservations
- MAPs are transmitted by the NC node  $\approx$  1 ms
- Every node must go through an admission process before becoming part of the MoCA network
- Every node gets a reservation opportunity to send packets per MAP
- Robust network operation – every node periodically updates its transmit power levels and PHY profiles using link maintenance operation (LMO)
- Seamless recovery of network – backup NC node takes over when NC fails
- Secured network - all packets in the MoCA network are encrypted except for beacons

- Initial MoCA MAC/PHY Specification v1.0 was released on 2/26/06.
- Latest MoCA MAC/PHY Specification v1.0 was released on 4/5/07.
- Extensions to MoCA specification are being discussed in SWG include:
  - ▶ L2ME Messaging protocols
  - ▶ Full-Mesh Rate Transaction
  - ▶ Parameterized QoS Transactions
  - ▶ 16 nodes
  - ▶ Packet aggregation

# Field Testing of MoCA



- Goal - validate performance and coverage in real world conditions
- Field Test conducted in  $\approx$  250 homes, 15 cities
  - ▶ Multiple operators and service providers
  - ▶ All MoCA Members participated in tests
- Tests conducted under normal living conditions
  - ▶ No modifications to cable plant
  - ▶ Existing devices connected to cable
  - ▶ Existing services connected to cable
- Tests systems designed for use by non-technical persons
  - ▶ MoCA nodes deployed at each home cable outlet
  - ▶ Test coordinated by laptop PC
  - ▶ Collected multiple statistics on coverage, performance, and link

# Field Test Results

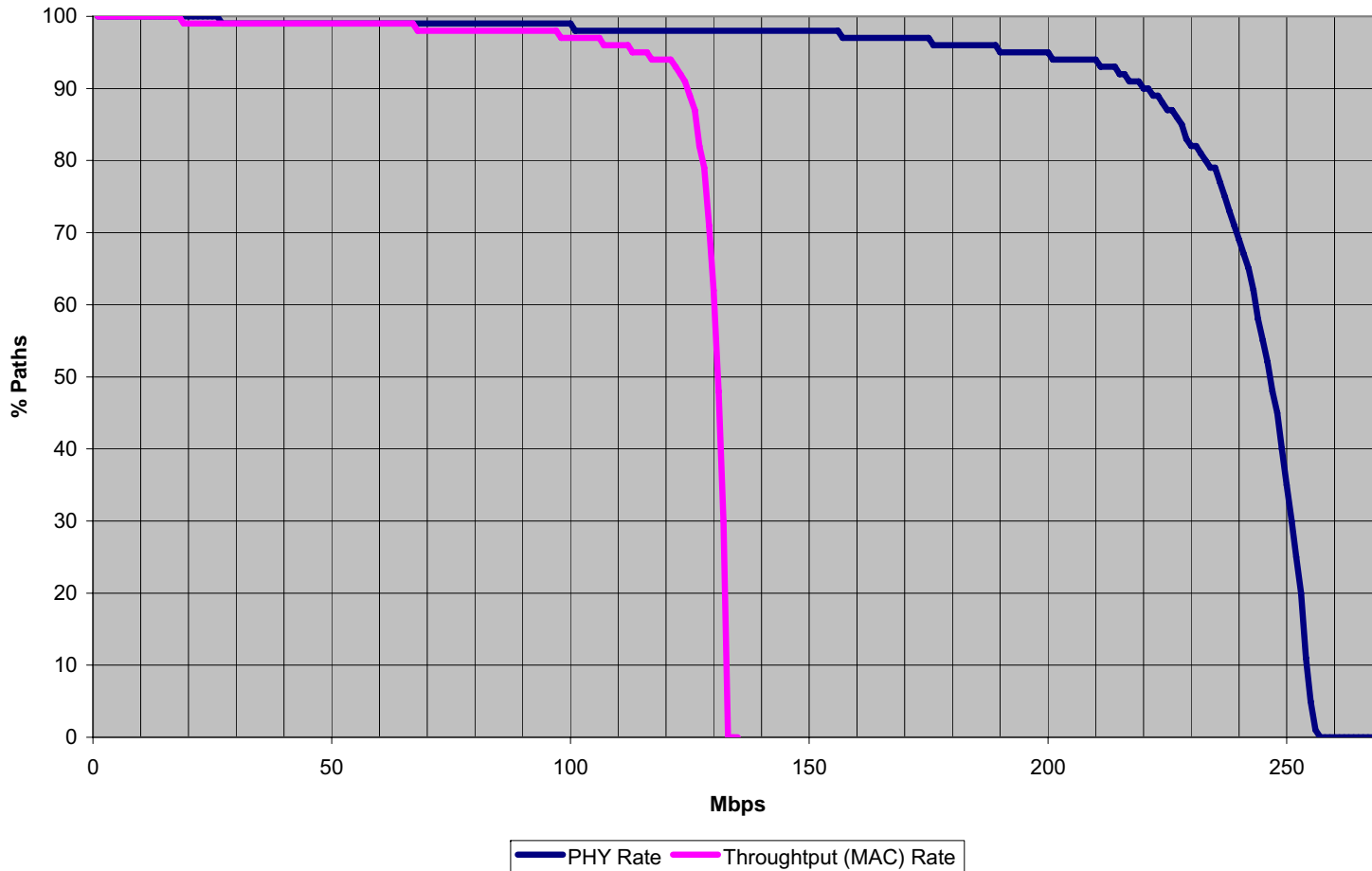


- Packet Error Rate less than  $10^{-6}$
- Average one-way latency less than 3.5 ms
- Net usable (MAC) data rates, with no changes to the home coax system:
  - ▶ 97% of all paths in all homes achieved  $\geq 100$  Mbps
- Net usable (MAC) data rates, with simple remediation to the installed coax cable system:
  - ▶ 100% of homes achieved  $\geq 95$  Mbps on every path in the home

# MoCA Performance/Coverage



Performance: Percent of Paths vs. Bit Rate



# Summary



- Home usage model
  - ▶ room-to-room, peer-to-peer, full mesh connectivity
  - ▶ 100 Mbps net throughput
  - ▶ No-excuses, glitch-free video
  - ▶ Consumer or Service provider enabled
- Coexistence with other services
- A reliable home mesh networking of digital content among MoCA devices using existing coaxial cables
- Proven real-world validation
  - ▶ Large scale deployment of MoCA ( > 5M installed MoCA nodes)
  - ▶ >100Mbps in 97% of all connections
    - Reasonable remediation for other connections
- Secured network with seamless network recovery when NC fails