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# HOW MUCH TV WHITE SPACE IS THERE IN GERMANY?

Torsten Dudda, Tim Irnich, Jörgen Karlsson  
Ericsson Research

17. ITG Fachtagung Mobilkommunikation  
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# OVERVIEW

1. Introduction
2. TV White Space assessment
  1. DVB-T terrain-based propagation modeling
  2. Prediction of TV coverage areas
3. Calculation of maximum permitted White Space Device power
4. TV White Space availability in Germany
5. Conclusion

# MOTIVATION



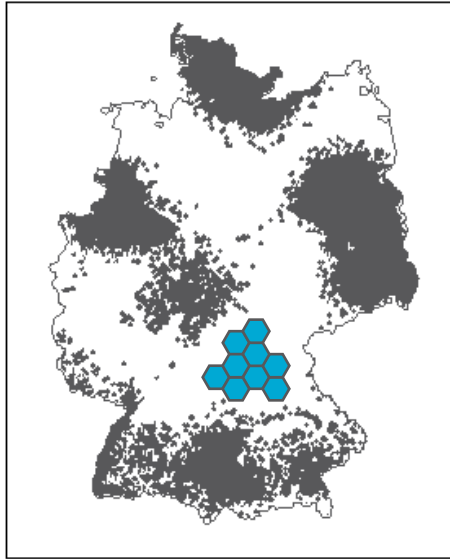
- › Increasing **mobile broadband** traffic triggers search for **new ways of spectrum utilization**
- › Dynamic opportunistic spectrum access on a secondary basis one considered approach
- › **TV band is locally underutilized**
  - In Europe DVB-T operates in 40 channels between 470 and 790 MHz
- › Secondary access to TV band envisaged under **non-interfering, non-protected paradigm** and subject to certain regulatory limitations
  - Considerably different spectrum environment compared to dedicated spectrum
- › Scope: quantify **amount and utility** of this spectrum environment for **secondary users**



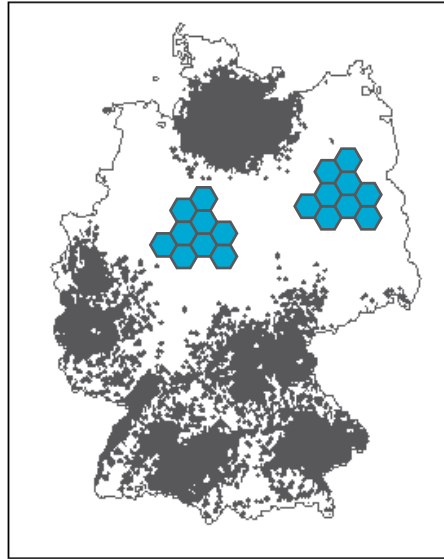
# TV WHITE SPACE (TVWS) DEFINITION



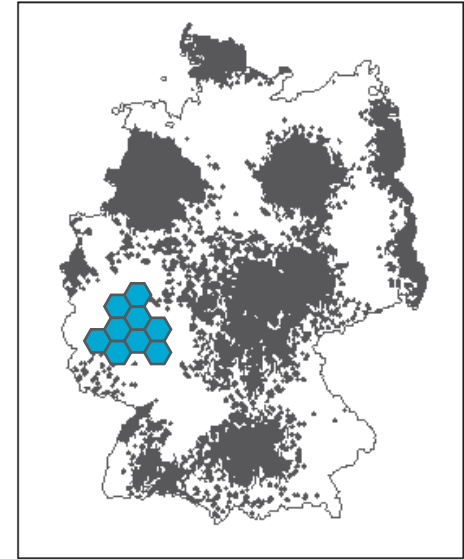
UHF Channel 39



UHF Channel 40



UHF Channel 41



□ TVWS    ■ TV Coverage areas

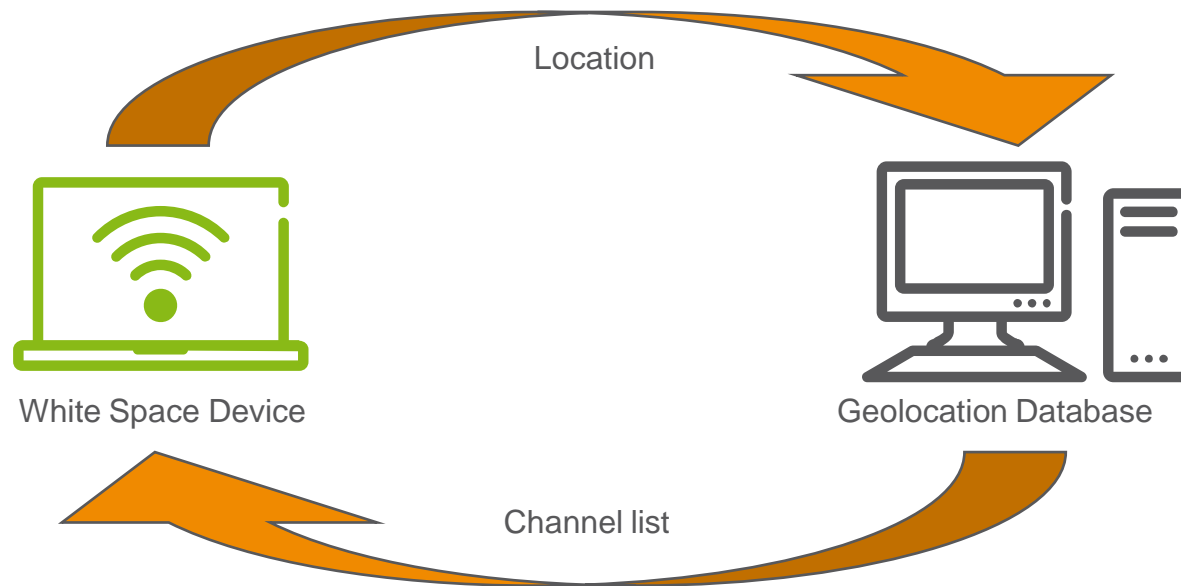
- › TVWS exist in locations where successful TV reception is no longer possible\* and thus **secondary usage by White Space Devices (WSDs)** can be permitted

\*according to a certain threshold definition (TV coverage in practice is not a binary phenomenon)

# GEO-LOCATION DATABASE APPROACH



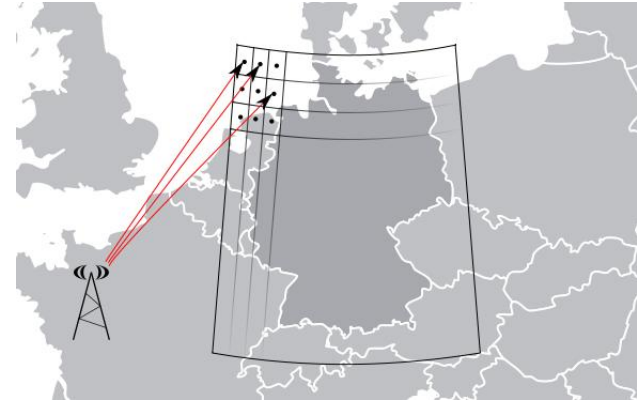
- › How to find White Space
  - Appropriate Spectrum Opportunity Detection Method needed
  - Part of spectrum regulatory rules for secondary users
- › Geo-location database principle
  - White Space Devices (WSD) provide their location in database query
  - Database tells them which channels they may use at given location



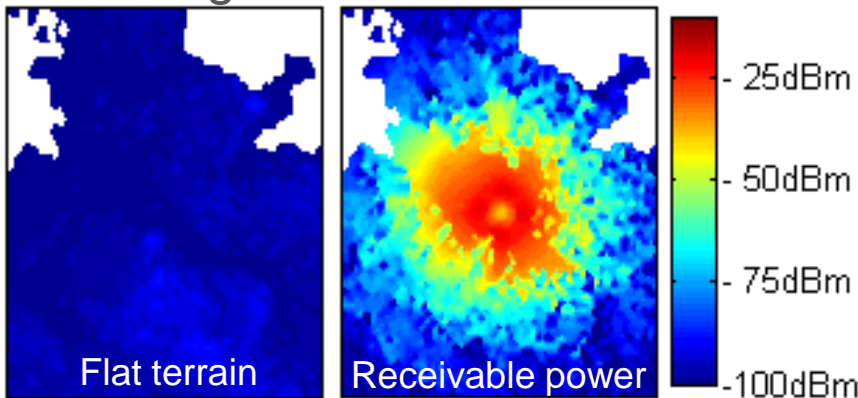
# DVB-T FIELD STRENGTH PREDICTION



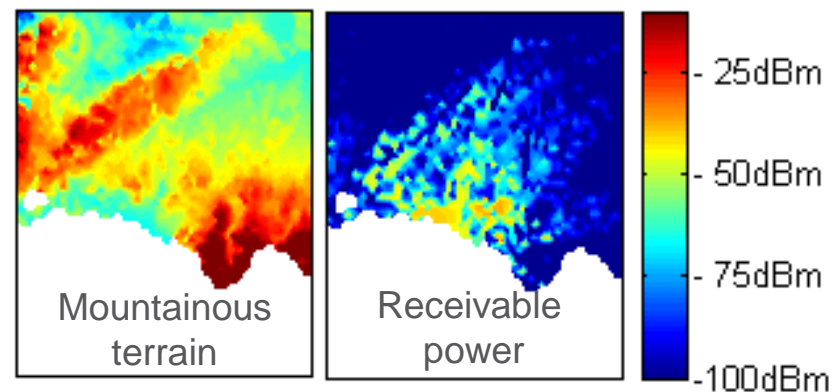
- › Longley-Rice's Irregular Terrain Model (ITM) (SPLAT!)
- › BNetzA database containing all TV transmitters in Germany and surrounding countries
- › SRTM terrain data, 90m x 90m resolution
- › Estimation per transmitter per channel and for grid with pixel resolution of 2.5km x 5km (60.000 pixels)



## Hamburg UHF Channel 40



## Bodensee UHF Channel 21



# DVB-T COVERAGE AREA PREDICTION



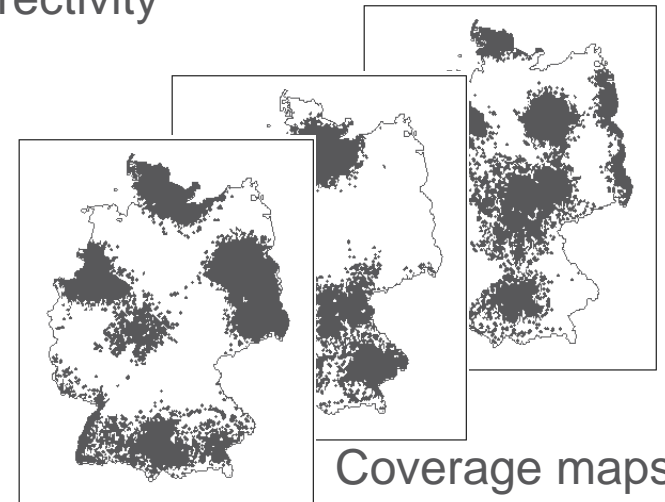
- › TV transmitter **coverage** areas  
→ decide if pixel has sufficient

*location probability*  $q_1 = \Pr \left\{ P_S \geq P_{S,\min} + \sum_{i=1}^K r_{U,k} P_{U,k} \right\}$

depending on

- Received power from serving TV transmitter(s) (incl. SFN gains)
- Interference from other TV transmitters (co- and adjacent channels)
- Antenna polarizations, TV receiver antenna directivity

- › For receivable power maps calculate corresponding binary coverage maps

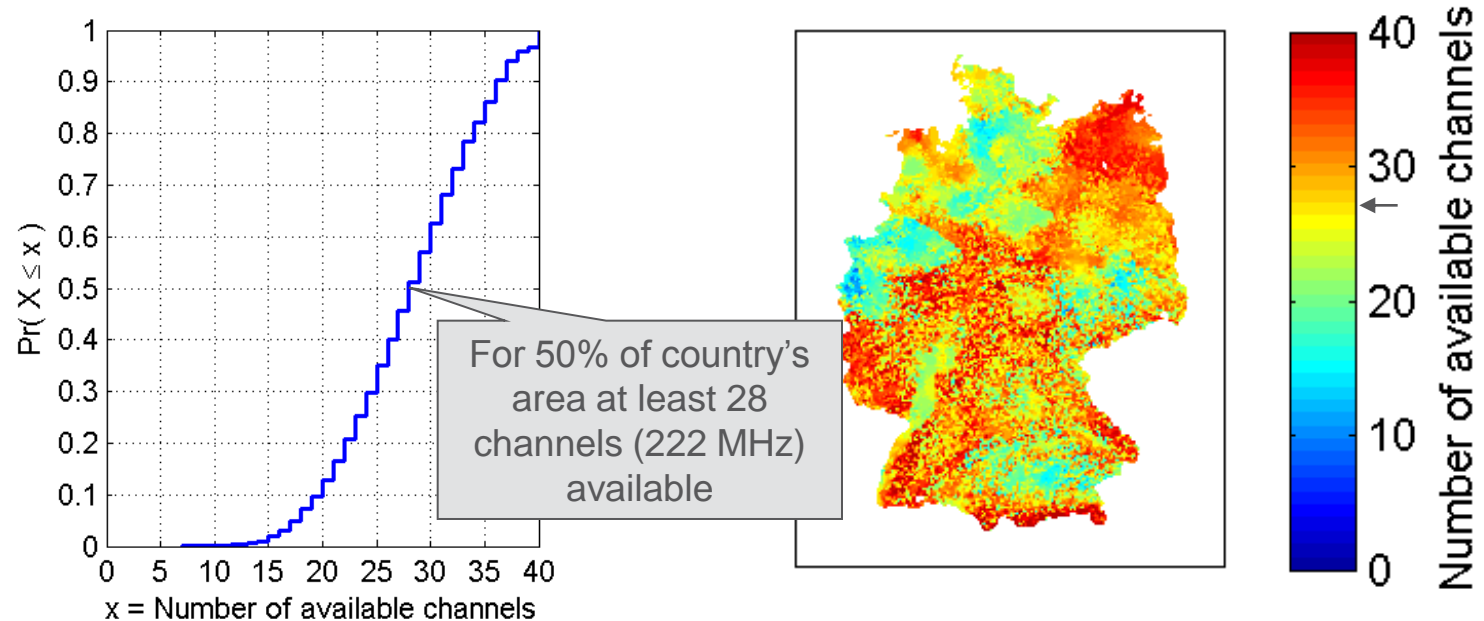


Coverage maps per channel

# NUMBER OF UNUSED TV CHANNELS PER LOCATION



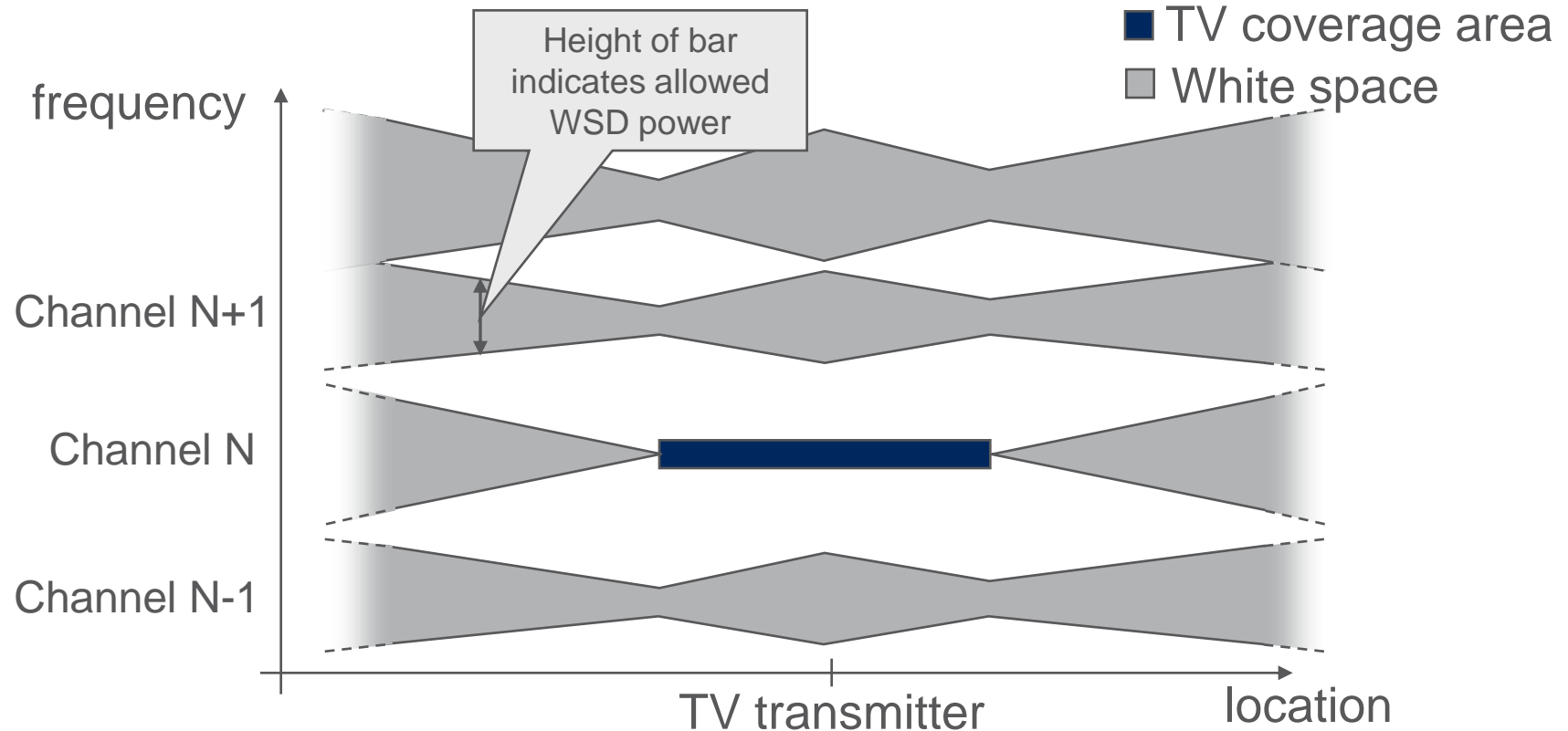
- › Sum up number of channels for which pixel is not part of coverage area
- › Interpret set of channel counts per pixel as random sample, draw CDF



- › 10% of locations: more than 36 channels (288 MHz)
- › 90% of locations: more than 20 channels (160 MHz)



# MAXIMUM PERMITTED WSD TRANSMIT POWER



## › Location-dependent WSD power

- Increases outside of co-channel coverage area
- Transmission also permitted in adjacent channel coverage

# EUROPEAN CEPT ECC SE43 METHODOLOGY



- › Criterion: permitted degradation of **TV Location Probability**

$$q_1 = \Pr \left\{ P_S \geq P_{S,\min} + \sum_{i=1}^K r_{U,k} P_{U,k} \right\}$$

- › Degraded (1%) Location Probability with **WSD interference**

$$q_2 = \Pr \left\{ P_S \geq P_{S,\min} + \sum_{i=1}^K r_{U,k} P_{U,k} + r(\Delta f) G P_{WSD} \right\} \rightarrow \text{Solve for } P_{WSD}$$

Protection ratio

Coupling gain

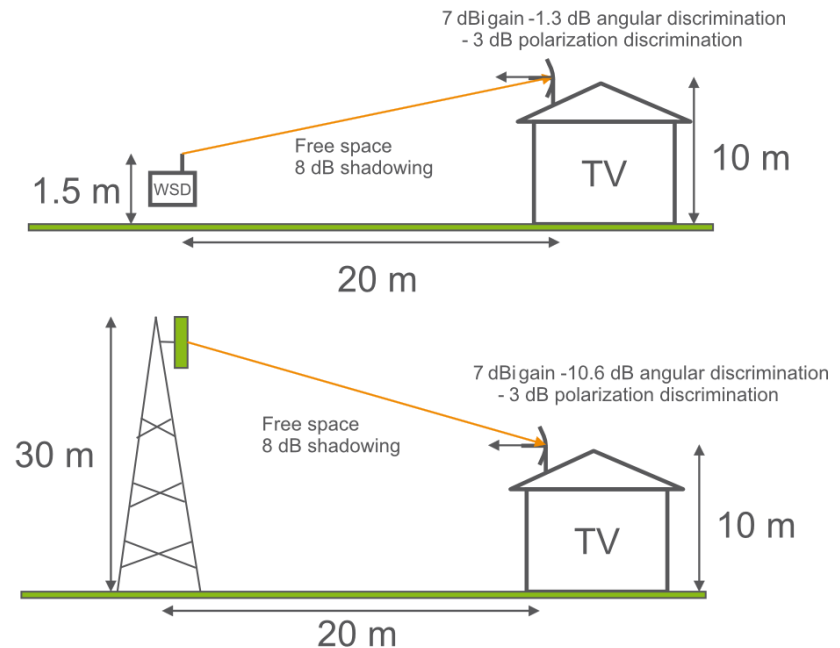
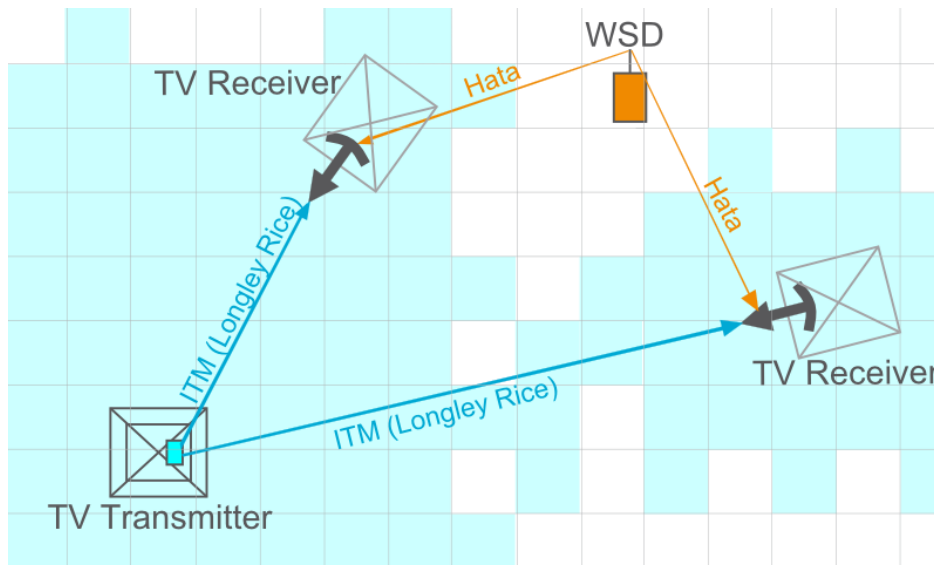
Maximum WSD transmit power

- › Requires knowledge about **critical point**
  - location of TV receiver most sensitive to WSD interference
  - in case several TV coverage areas

# GEOMETRIES TO FIND CRITICAL POINT



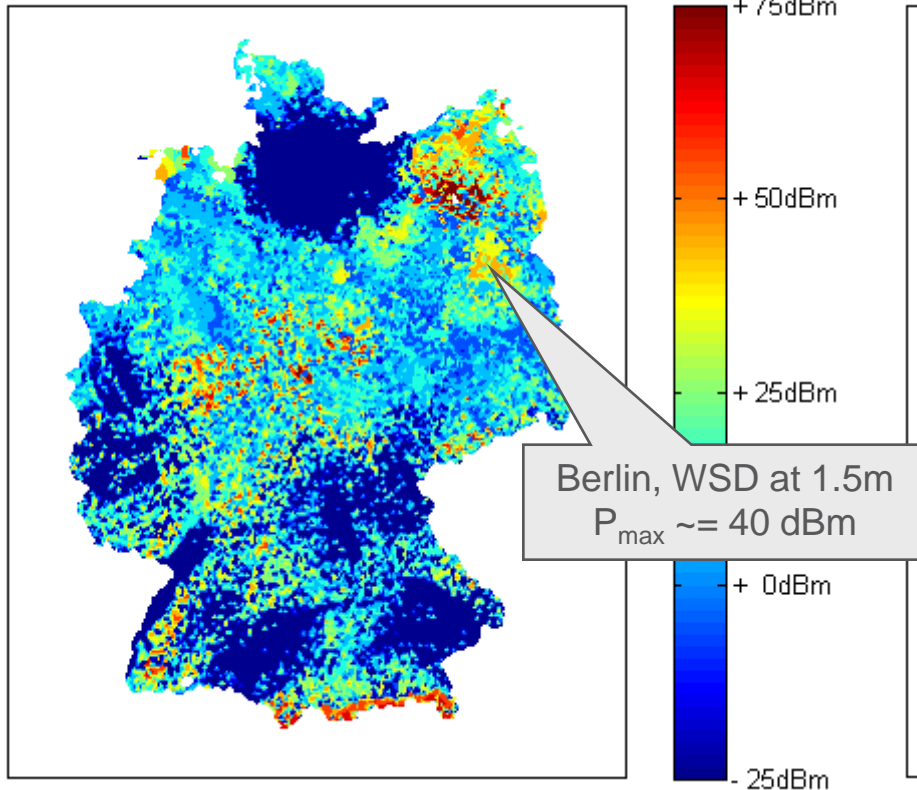
- › Determine **critical point** as TV receiver location which is the most limiting for WSD transmit power
- › Spatially separated on co- or adjacent channel
- › Within same location pixel as WSD on co-channel



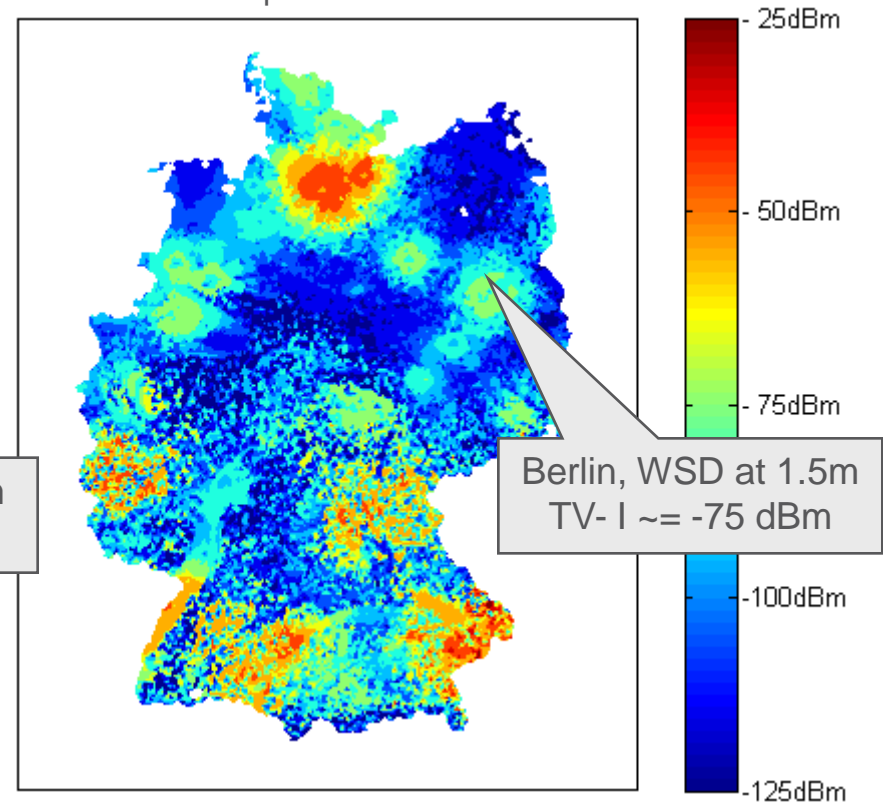
# WSD POWER & TV INTERFERENCE FOR UHF CHANNEL 40 (622-630 MHz)



Permitted WSD transmit power

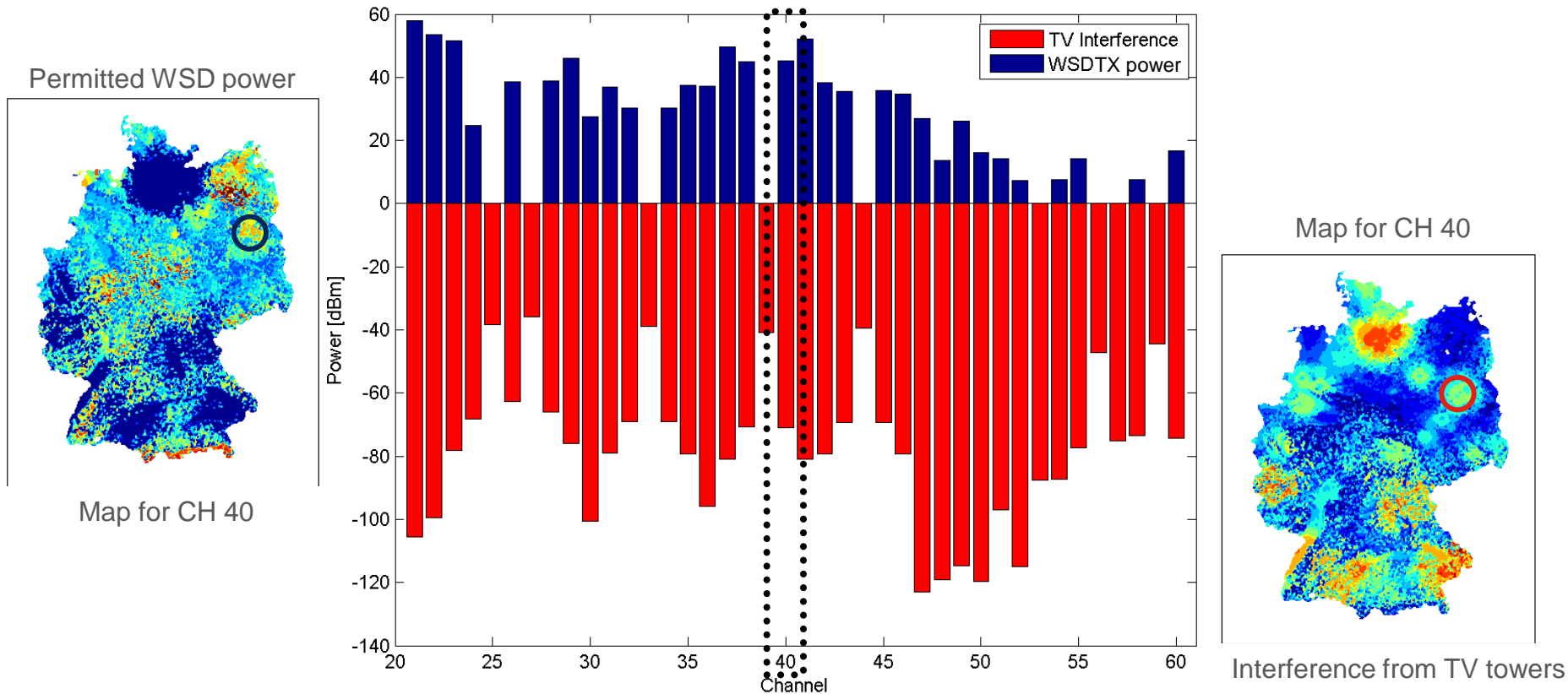


Interference power from TV towers



- › High **spatial variability** of permitted transmit power and perceived interference

# WSD POWER & TV INTERFERENCE FOR UHF CHANNELS 21-60 IN BERLIN

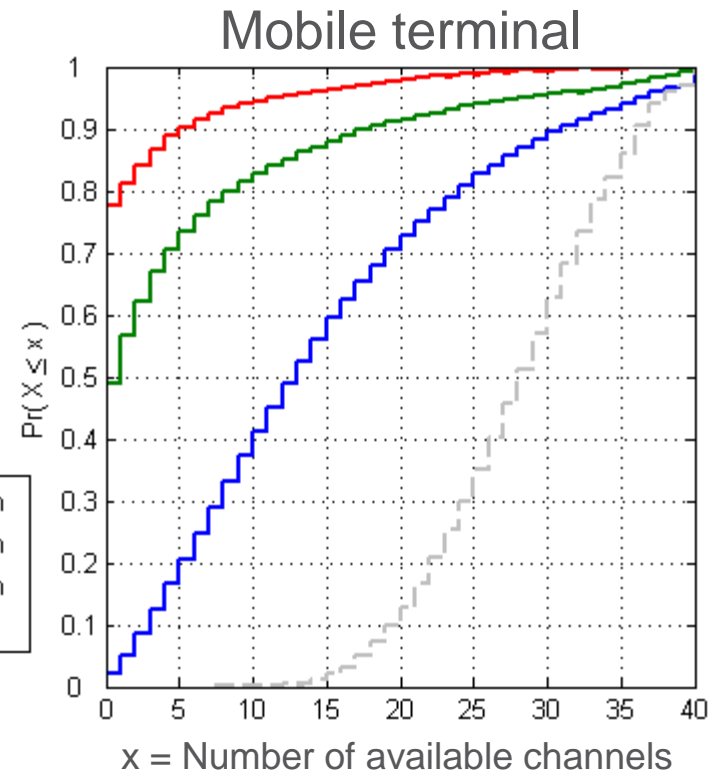
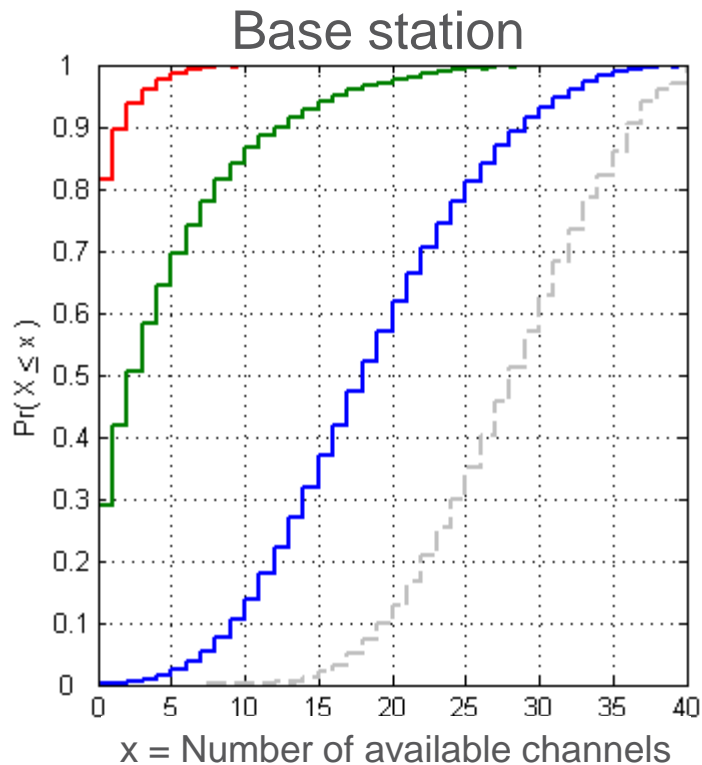


- › High **variability** of permitted transmit power and perceived interference **among channels**

# AVAILABLE TVWS CHANNELS FOR GIVEN WANTED TRANSMIT POWER



- › Count channels per location allowing a given WSD transmit power
- › Draw CDF for this metric using all locations as sample set



# CONCLUSION & OUTLOOK



- › Quite **significant amount of spectrum unused by TV system**
  - Strongly location-dependent availability
  
- › Tradeoff between WSD wanted transmit power and number of available channels → **favors short range / low power applications**
  
- › Considerable **TV interference** – white space is not really white
  
- › Some remaining open questions...
  - How valuable is TVWS (compared to clean dedicated spectrum)?
    - › This depends on what TVWS shall be used for → use case specific analysis needed
  - How well does supply match demand?



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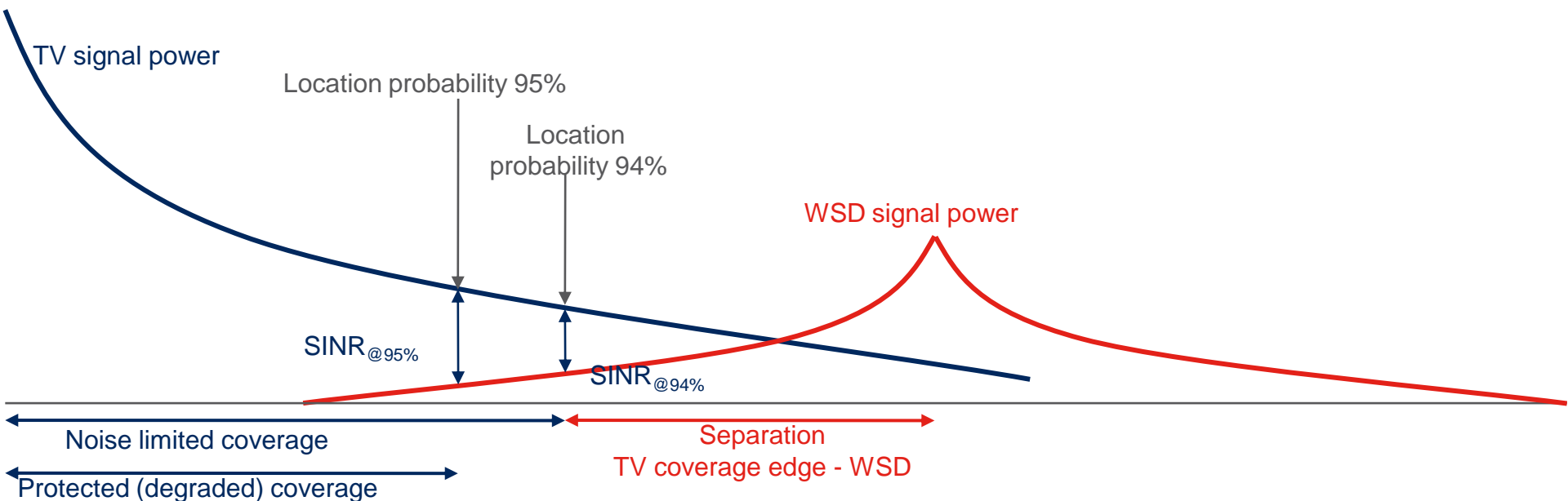


# PERMITTED WSD TX POWER CEPT ECC SE43 METHODOLOGY



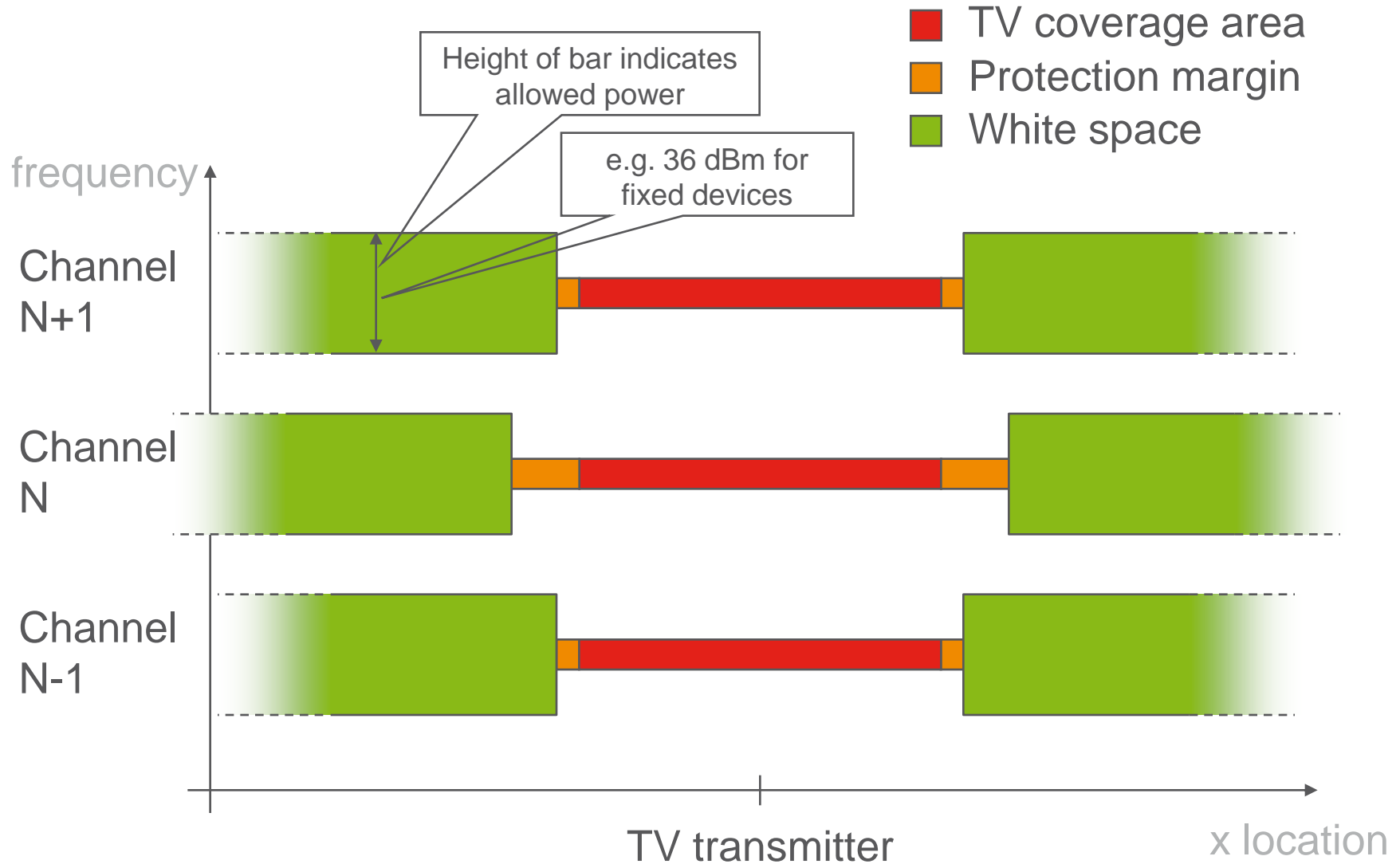
› Degraded (1%) Location Probability with **WSD interference**

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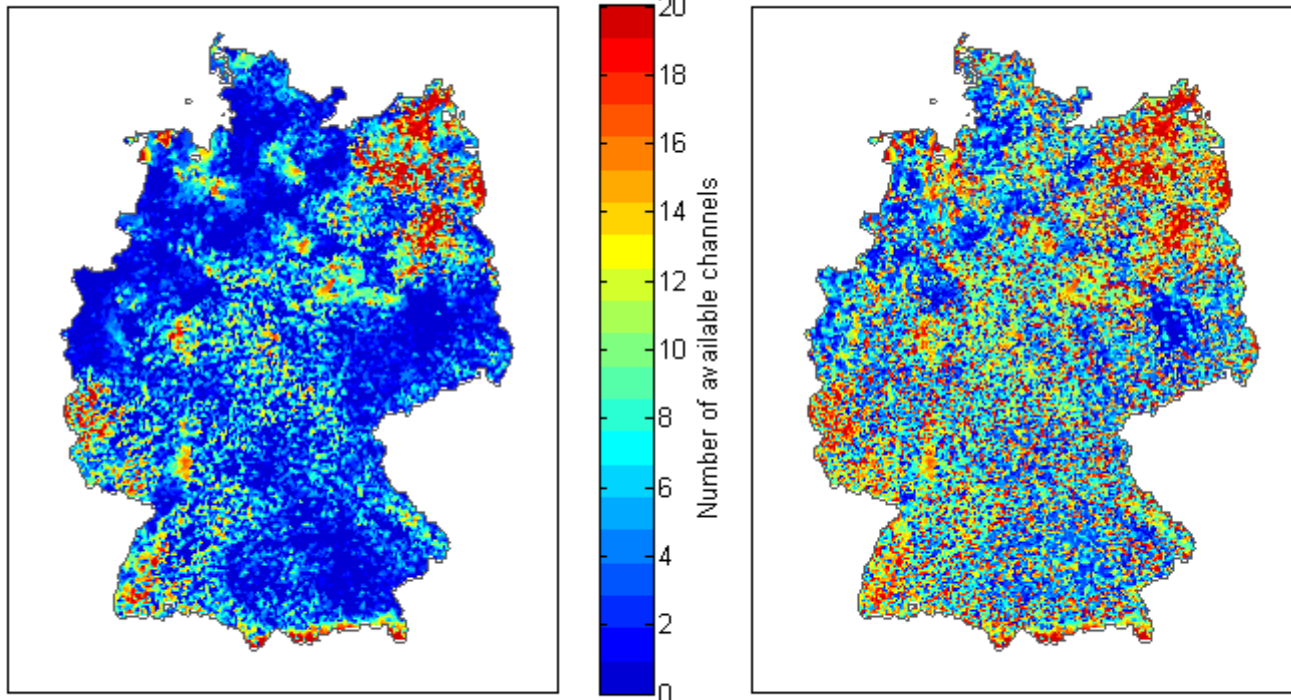


# THE FCC APPROACH

FIXED MAX. OUTPUT POWER DEPENDING ON DEVICE TYPE



# NUMBER OF AVAILABLE CHANNELS FOR GIVEN WANTED TRANSMIT POWER



- › Base station
- › Permitted to operate on given number of channels with 40 dBm

- › Mobile terminal
- › Permitted to operate on given number of channels with 20 dBm

POTENTIAL TO DEPLOY SECONDARY SYSTEM WITH TYPICAL TRANSMIT POWERS IN TVWS

# DVB-T COVERAGE - RESULTS

- › Moving along path at Lon. 10°W (y-index 121)
- › Available channels and total number of available channels.

