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Motivation

- Public Safety responders need ALWAYS ON, missioncritical radio systems.
- Infrastructure, including radio networks, can be damaged during disaster scenarios.
- Blizzard of 2011





1st Feb., 2011 (Tues.) PM

2nd Feb., 2011 (Wed.)

Record Chicago Snowfall of ~0.75 m.

DSA Opportunities

Effect of blizzard on public safety communications observed at the IIT spectrum observatory



- High public safety occupancy and low commercial occupancy during:
 - weekends
 - record snow-storm (Feb. 1-2, 2011)
- Favorable opportunity for DSA in LMR Bands
- Cumulative distribution of channel occupancies:



• ~85% of channels have occupancy < 10% over 24 hours, meaning favorable DSA opportunity







- Since data is inherently non-stationary, 30 minute windows of voice traffic were taken
- The **model** parameters were estimated for each window
- Result is time-series of parameters that tracks channel traffic in the long-term



Applications

- Traffic model for simulations (Equipment manufacturers, FCC)
- Network planning
- Spectrum sensing by cognitive radios
- Opportunistic access of under-utilized channels by Public
- Safety during emergencies
- Recall, 85% of channels have <10 % occupancy over a 24 hour period



Future Work

- DSA Feasibility study
- Analyze 850 and 700 MHz channels
- Planning and network forecast
- Policy (FCC)
- Compare business and public safety users

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Publications

• Taher, T; Bacchus, R; Zdunek, K; Roberson, D; " Dynamic Spectrum Access Opportunity for Public Safety in the Land Mobile Radio **Bands**", presented at IEEE Crowncom conference, Osaka, Japan, June 2011.

• Taher, T; Bacchus, R; Roberson, D; Zdunek, K; "Empirical Modeling of Public Safety Voice Traffic in the Land Mobile Radio Bands", accepted for publication at IEEE Crowncom conference, Stockholm, Sweden, June 2012.