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(71) Applicant(s)
Telefonaktiebolaget L M Ericsson (publ)

(72) Inventor(s)
Kazmi, Muhammad

(74) Agent / Attorney
**Watermark Patent and Trade Marks Attorneys, Level 2 302 Burwood Road,
HAWTHORN, VIC, 3122**

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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): TELEFONAKTIEBOLAGET L M ERICSSON (PUBL)
[SE/SE]; S-164 83 Stockholm (SE).

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): KAZMI, Muhammad

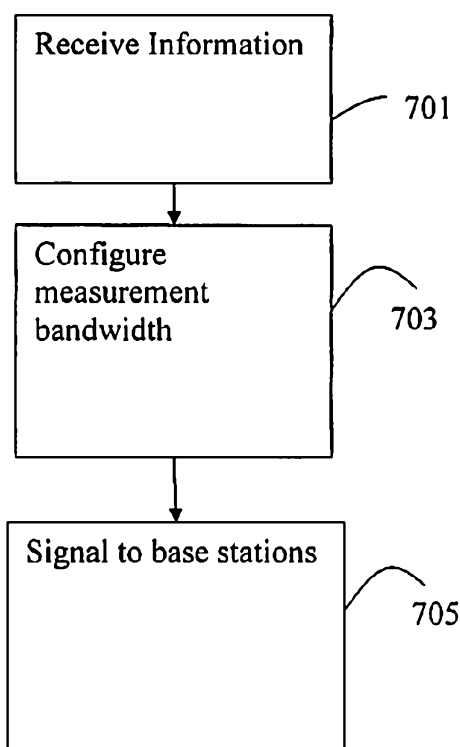
(74) Agent: HASSELGREN, Joakim; Ericsson AB, Patent Unit LTE, S-164 80 Stockholm (SE).

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(54) Title: MEASUREMENT BANDWIDTH CONFIGURATION METHOD



(57) Abstract: In a cellular radio system measurement bandwidth for a plurality of base stations belonging to a cellular radio system is performed by configuring the base stations to signal the measurement bandwidth to user equipments connected to the cellular radio system for performing downlink neighbor cell measurements over the signaled measurement bandwidth in the user equipment by first receiving a set of information. The received information is used for configuring the measurement bandwidth using the received set of information and the configured measurement bandwidth is signaled to the base stations.

Fig. 7

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MEASUREMENT BANDWIDTH CONFIGURATION METHOD

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TECHNICAL FIELD

The present invention relates to a method for configuring measurement bandwidth in a cellular radio system.

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BACKGROUND

In evolved UMTS Terrestrial Radio Access Network (E-UTRAN) system several cell transmission bandwidths are possible e.g. 1.4 MHz, 3 MHz, 5 MHz, 10 MHz, 15 MHz, 20 MHz etc, see 3GPP TS 36.104, "Evolved Universal Terrestrial Radio Access (E-UTRA);
15 Base Station (BS) radio transmission and reception". Also, different transmission bandwidth can be used in neighboring cells on the same carrier frequency. As a result cells with the same center frequency, sometimes termed intra-frequency cells, may have different transmission bandwidths. Irrespective of the cell transmission bandwidth, a user equipment (UE) is usually required to perform measurements on the neighboring cells. It is important
20 that the measurement reports from different cells are consistent and can be used by the network to execute reliable handovers, i.e. correct handover decisions.

Furthermore, mobility support is one of the fundamental features of any cellular systems. In E-UTRAN the mobility is to be supported both in idle mode and in connected mode. In idle
25 mode the UE in E-UTRAN is required to perform autonomous cell reselection based on some network signaled parameters. This allows the network to control UE mobility behavior in the coverage area to some extent. Also, the UE shall be able to perform cell reselection within the same frequency layer (intra frequency cell reselection), between different

frequency layers (inter-frequency cell reselection) and also between E-UTRAN and other systems such as UTRAN (inter-RAT cell reselection).

5 In connected mode the network shall direct the UE to perform handover to a particular cell, which may belong to the same serving frequency (intra-frequency handover) or to another frequency (inter-frequency handover). Though this decision is taken by the network, it's primarily based on the UE measurement reports. As in case of cell reselection, the UE in connected mode shall also support mobility (i.e. handovers) within the same frequency layer, inter-frequency handovers and inter-RAT handovers.

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The cell reselection and handovers are generally based on one or more downlink measurements. These measurements are done on some known reference symbols or pilot sequences.

15 Another important aspect of the mobility is the identification of the UE position or geographical location. This allows the UE to get an access to location based services, e.g. map reading. There are several different types of positioning methods. In some of the methods the UE identifies its location based on one or more neighbor cell measurements that are also done on some known reference symbols or pilot sequences.

20

Neighbor cell measurements are performed by the UE on downlink channels in the serving as well as on neighbor cells for example on reference symbols or pilot sequences. Unlike other measurements such as Channel quality indicator (CQI) which is done on Transmission Time interval (TTI) level (e.g. 1 ms), the neighbor cell measurements are performed over
25 longer time duration, typically in the order of few 100 ms. Neighbor cell measurements can be broadly divided into two main categories:

- Radio related measurements
- Timing related measurements

The radio related measurements are used to take handover decisions and allow a UE to do cell reselection in idle mode. Depending upon a particular mobility scenario more than one downlink measurement may be required to ensure robust mobility decisions. For instance
5 coverage, interference and load in the cell would impact the cell change/handover decision.

In E-UTRAN the major mobility measurements are done on reference symbols, which are sent with a certain pattern defined in time and frequency. Furthermore the pattern is repeated in every slot (i.e. 0.5 ms). The agreed downlink channel measurements are
10 described in 3GPP TS 36.214, "Evolved Universal Terrestrial Radio Access (E-UTRA); Physical layer; Measurements":

- Reference symbol received power (RSRP)
- E-UTRA Carrier received signal strength indicator (E-UTRA Carrier RSSI)
- 15 - Reference symbol received quality (RSRQ); $RSRQ = RSRP/RSSI$

RSRP is measured over the downlink reference symbol whereas carrier RSSI is measured over all the sub-carriers (i.e. sub-carriers containing reference symbols and data).

20 In E-UTRA, as stated above, the neighbor cells, even operating on the same carrier frequency (i.e. intra-frequency cells), may employ different transmission bandwidth. Nevertheless the downlink measurements from all the cells operating over the same carrier frequency in at least part of the coverage area should be performed over the same measurement bandwidth to ensure consistent measurement reports. It is known that
25 measurement bandwidth can be signaled by the serving cell to the UE.

In order to prevent ping pong during cell change, one important characteristics of the neighbor cell measurement is to properly filter out the affect of fading. The averaging in time domain and in frequency domain can be traded. However, longer time domain filtering

may cause unnecessary delay in obtaining measurement reports and this could adversely affect the mobility performance.

- In connected or active mode the inter-frequency RSRP, RSRQ and RSSI are performed by the UE during idle gaps, which are repeated periodically. Similarly E-UTRA measurements (e.g. E-UTRA FDD measurement) done by a multimode terminal when operating under another technology (e.g. WCDMA, E-UTRA TDD etc) are to be performed during gaps. A WCDMA UE will perform E-UTRA measurements during compressed mode gaps.
- 10 A UE has a relatively short time to perform IF and IRAT measurements. The actual time depends upon configured gaps. For instance denser gaps (i.e. more frequent gaps) would lead to shorter overall measurement period as the UE can obtain sufficient samples in relatively shorter time. Therefore it may be sufficient to measure over shorter measurement bandwidth e.g. over 5 MHz rather than 10 MHz bandwidth. However dense pattern may not
- 15 be in use all the time because it adversely affects user throughput.

Therefore when infrequent gaps are used the measurement bandwidth needs to be adjusted, i.e. larger measurement bandwidth may be desirable. By increasing the measurement bandwidth the measurement period can be reduced thereby retaining good mobility

20 performance.

There are three main deployment scenarios:

- Homogeneous bandwidth deployment: all cells have same bandwidth
- 25 - Heterogeneous bandwidth deployment: cells have different bandwidth
- Cells on borders of homogeneous and heterogeneous bandwidth cells

The above mentioned deployment scenarios are not expected to change very frequently.

However, there are several events, which require more frequent modification of the measurement bandwidth more such as:

- 5 - Change in measurement gap pattern (e.g. periodicity changed from 20 ms to 140 ms or vice versa).
 - A new base station is added or removed.
 - Change in cell planning: when cell transmission bandwidth of one or more of the cells is upgraded or downgraded.
- 10 It is important that network is able to use a consistent and optimal value of measurement bandwidth even if there following changes occur: modifications or changes in network configuration, changes in radio resource management strategies etc.

Hence, there exists a need for a cellular radio system that enables a more frequent
15 modification of measurement bandwidth.

SUMMARY

It is an object of the present invention to provide an improved cellular radio system.

- 20 It is another object of the present invention to provide a method, system and a device that is capable of ensuring consistent measurement bandwidths in all cells.

It is yet another object of the present invention to provide a cellular radio system that enables a more frequent modification of measurement bandwidth.

25

These objects and others are obtained by the method, radio system node and radio system as set out in the appended claims. Thus, in a cellular radio system measurement bandwidth for a plurality of base stations belonging to a cellular radio system is performed by configuring the base stations to signal the measurement bandwidth to user equipments connected to the

cellular radio system measurement bandwidth for a plurality of base stations belonging to a cellular radio system is performed by configuring the base stations to signal the measurement bandwidth to user equipments connected to the cellular radio system for performing downlink neighbor cell measurements over the signaled measurement bandwidth in the user equipment by first receiving a set of information. The received information is then used for configuring the measurement bandwidth using the received set of information and the configured measurement bandwidth is signaled to the base stations.

The invention also extends to a node in a cellular radio system and a cellular radio system configured to execute the method.

Using the system, node and method in accordance with the invention will allow for configuration of measurement bandwidths in various combination of environment and scenarios, e.g. in heterogeneous cell transmission bandwidth deployment scenario. Also, the measurement bandwidth can be conveniently modified whenever there is changed in cell planning, network upgrade etc. Further it is ensured that consistent measurement bandwidth parameters are used in all cells in a given coverage area; which in turn leads to consistent measurement performance which ensures robust mobility performance.

In one aspect the present invention provides a method of configuring measurement bandwidth for a plurality of base stations belonging to a cellular radio system, wherein the base stations are configured to signal the measurement bandwidth to user equipments connected to the cellular radio system for performing downlink neighbor cell measurements over the signaled measurement bandwidth in the user equipment, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving by a centralized dedicated node, a set of radio system configuration and performance information;

configuring by the centralized dedicated node, the measurement bandwidth for each of the plurality of base stations using the received set of information; and

signaling the configured measurement bandwidth from the centralized dedicated node to each of the plurality of base stations.

In another aspect the present invention provides a node for configuring measurement bandwidth for a plurality of base stations belonging to a cellular radio system, wherein the base stations are configured to signal the measurement bandwidth to user equipments connected to the cellular radio system for performing downlink neighbor cell measurements over the signaled measurement bandwidth in the user equipment, the node comprising:

means for receiving a set of radio system configuration and performance information,

means for configuring the measurement bandwidth using the received set of information, and

means for signaling the configured measurement bandwidth from the node to each of the plurality of base stations.

In a further aspect the present invention provides A method of configuring measurement bandwidth for a plurality of base stations belonging to a cellular radio system, wherein the base stations are configured to signal the measurement bandwidth to user equipments connected to the cellular radio system for performing downlink neighbor cell measurements by the user equipments over the signaled measurement bandwidth, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving by each of the plurality of base stations, a set of radio system configuration and performance information;

utilizing the received set of information by each given base station to configure the measurement bandwidth for use within the cell served by each given base station; and

signaling the configured measurement bandwidth from each given base station to the user equipments operating in the cell served by the given base station.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The present invention will now be described in more detail by way of non-limiting examples and with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a general view of a cellular radio system,

Fig. 2 is a view of a radio system in accordance with a first exemplary embodiment,

Fig. 3 is a view of a radio system in accordance with a second exemplary embodiment, - Fig. 4 is a view of a centralized node in accordance with the present invention,

5 Fig. 5 is a view of a system configuration in accordance with one embodiment of the invention,

Fig. 6 is a view of a system configuration in accordance with another embodiment of the invention, and

- Fig. 7 is a flowchart illustrating procedural steps performed when configuring measurement bandwidth for a plurality of base stations.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

5 In Fig.1, a general view of a cellular radio system 100 is depicted. The system 100 comprises a base station (Node B) 101. The base station 101 serves a number of mobile terminals, usually termed User Equipment (UE) 103, located within the area covered by the base station 101. The base station 101 and a number of adjacent base stations (not shown) are further connected to a radio network controller node (RNC) 105.

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In order to ensure that UE reports consistent measurement results from different cells operating on the same carrier frequency, the UE can be configured to perform measurements over the same measurement bandwidth in all cells in at least given portion of a coverage area.

15

In accordance with one embodiment, the measurement bandwidth is set to correspond to the smallest bandwidth used in all cells in a coverage area or on a particular carrier frequency. The shortest cell bandwidth gives the upper bound of the measurement bandwidth. However some additional factors may also be taken into consideration when setting the measurement bandwidth. Such factors comprise one or more of the following: propagation environment, cell planning, addition/deletion of base station with bandwidth different than existing ones, modification in radio resource management (RRM) operations etc. This is also described in more detail below.

20

25 Furthermore the border region between two coverage areas comprising cells with unequal cell bandwidth may require further modification in measurement bandwidth, which eventually can be configured at the base stations located in that area.

Additionally all cells may be operating over the same and larger bandwidth e.g. all cells' bandwidth is 20 MHz wide. Measurement over full or very large bandwidth reduces measurement errors but it also increases complexity in the UE. Therefore it may not be necessary to perform measurement over the full or very large bandwidth.

5

Also there is trade off between the measurement bandwidth and measurement period (i.e. time domain filtering). Therefore measurement bandwidth can be adjusted in accordance with the tolerable or affordable measurement reporting delay in a given environment.

- 10 Table 1 provides a list of some of the major factors that could be considered by the network node that sets the measurement bandwidth.

Table 1: List of factors affecting measurement bandwidth

No.	Factor	Description/Comments
1	Min bandwidth of all cells/coverage area	
2	Addition/deletion of base station	
3	Propagation environment	E.g. Larger bandwidth in low Doppler and low delay spread.
4	Addition of new carrier frequency layer	Intra-frequency and IF measurements may be done over different BW; IF measurement over larger BW is less complex
5	Change in cell planning on existing carrier frequency	Bandwidth of one or more cells is upgraded or downgraded
6	Modification in RRM strategies	E.g. Measurement gap patterns are significantly modified.

Below some examples are given to illustrate how the measurement bandwidth can be estimated. The examples also illustrate the fact that measurement bandwidth configuration is not always straight forward.

- 5 In Fig. 2 an example in which two different cell transmission bandwidths (5 MHz and 10 MHz) are used on the same carrier is depicted. In the example shown in Fig. 2 intra-frequency cells' bandwidth is either 5 MHz or 10 MHz. Further consider that 5 MHz and 10 MHz cells are contiguous as shown in Fig 2. In this example measurement bandwidth is 5 MHz, which is the smallest bandwidth of all cells use in the entire coverage area. However, 10 since several contiguous cells in this example operate at 10 MHz therefore in some scenario it may not be optimal to set 5 MHz measurement bandwidth in all cells in the coverage area.

- In Fig. 3 another exemplary embodiment illustrating another strategy of setting measurement bandwidth is shown. Fig. 3 shows that 5 MHz measurement bandwidth is used 15 in large part of the coverage area comprising of all 5 MHz as well as some of 10 MHz cells (closer to the cells operating at 5 MHz). This means that in cells located on the left of the dotted line, 5 MHz measurement bandwidth is signaled to all UE, which will perform measurement using this signaled bandwidth over N best neighbors. However in all 10 MHz cells that are located on the right of the dotted line, which are indeed far away from 5 MHz 20 cells, the measurement bandwidth is 10 MHz. This means from measurement and mobility performance point of view that at least some of the 10 MHz cells would have an edge over 5 MHz cells. As described below, additional system parameters and factors can play important role in setting the measurement bandwidth.
- 25 Furthermore, the arrangement described in conjunction with Fig 3 will not cause any measurement inconsistency since UE will measure over the same 10 MHz in the nearest neighbors, which are typically 5-6 cells.

In accordance with another exemplary embodiment additional system parameters are also considered. This is shown in table 2 below. The estimated or configured measurement bandwidth on a particular carrier frequency is 10 MHz as listed at the end of table 2. This is because at low Doppler speeds larger measurement bandwidth can be more beneficial.

- 5 Similarly due to longer gap periodicity (i.e. occurrence of gaps for performing downlink inter-frequency measurements) it is advantageous to measure over as larger bandwidth as possible as this will reduce the measurement period. The smallest cell bandwidth in the coverage area will put an upper bound on the measurement bandwidth. Therefore 10 MHz measurement bandwidth is chosen in this example.

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Table 2: Measurement bandwidth configuration: Example 3

No.	Parameter		Value
1	Max cell bandwidth in coverage area		20 MHz
2	Min cell bandwidth in coverage area		10 MHz
3	Radio conditions		low Doppler, low dispersion
4	Inter-frequency gap pattern:	Gap length	6 ms
		Gap periodicity	120 ms
5	<i>Configured measurement bandwidth</i>		<i>10 MHz</i>

In accordance with another exemplary embodiment illustrated in table 3 it is shown that it may be sufficient to have 5 MHz of measurement bandwidth. One reason is that in this example measurement gaps are more frequent (i.e. every 40 ms), which allows more possibility of performing time domain filtering in relatively shorter time interval compared to the previous example, i.e. example 2. Secondly in an environment characterized by high Doppler speed, very large measurement bandwidth (e.g. 10 MHz) may not lead to any

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significant performance improvement. Due to these reasons relatively shorter measurement bandwidth is used as compared to the previous example.

Overall it is noticed from these examples that measurement bandwidth is influenced by
5 large combination of parameters and network configuration aspects.

Table 3: Measurement bandwidth configuration: Example 4

No.	Parameter		Value
1	Max bandwidth in coverage area		20 MHz
2	Min bandwidth in coverage area		10 MHz
3	Radio conditions		high Doppler, high dispersion
4	Inter-frequency gap pattern:	Gap length	6 ms
		Gap periodicity	40 ms
5	<i>Configured measurement bandwidth</i>		<i>5 MHz</i>

The following methods can for example be used for measurement bandwidth configurations:

10

- Centralized method via centralized node
- Distributed method via inter-Node B communication

Centralized Method:

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In accordance with one embodiment a centralized or a common node is used. The centralized node configures one or more measurement bandwidth parameters for all the cells in a coverage area. The centralized node can either be one of the base stations, a designated base station 101 or a separate dedicated node such as the Radio Network Controller 105, or

done by an existing operational and maintenance (O&M). The term operational sub-system (OSS) may be interchangeably used for O&M and they have similar function and connotation. In accordance with one embodiment, the existing O&M node can be used this purpose. This is because O&M performs various other configuration operations.

5

In Fig. 4 a view of a centralized node 400 is shown. The exemplary centralized node 400 comprises a receiving unit 401 for receiving all the necessary information relevant for appropriate setting measurement bandwidth of downlink measurement quantities. The node 400 further comprises a calculation module 403 connected to the receiving unit 401 for
10 generating measurement bandwidths in response to the received information. Also the node 400 comprises a signaling device 405 connected to the calculation module 403 for signaling the measurement bandwidth parameter(s) to all the base stations 101 operating in a given coverage area or under a given carrier frequency.

15 In order to be able to configure measurement bandwidth(s), the centralized node is configured to receive various types of input e.g. cell transmission bandwidth, gap patterns, number of carrier frequencies etc., which are used in different cells within its jurisdiction. Part of the received input may be of static or semi-static nature such as cell bandwidth.

20 However, when a re-configuration of the cellular radio system is made, such as when a new base station or a carrier frequency is added, removed, downgraded or upgraded, the corresponding information (e.g. cell bandwidth etc) should preferably be readily provided to the centralized node. By providing information relating to a new configuration of the system reconfiguration of measurement bandwidth(s) in response to any relevant changes in the
25 network is enabled and consequently it is possible to make sure that downlink measurements are performed over an appropriate bandwidth. Also, other radio resource management related information such as gap patterns etc may be considered as semi dynamic or dynamic parameters.

Information such as propagation environment of the coverage area is fairly static and maybe already available at the centralized node. However, even radio environment can change in some circumstances; for instance when new base stations (normal or home base stations) are deployed in indoor environment, which was previously solely served by outdoor base stations.

The required information can be provided to the centralized node via existing interfaces i.e. via interface between O&M and eNode B (or base stations) or via X2 interface (eNode B-to-eNode B interface) depending upon which type of centralized node is used for performing configuration. Another possibility is to use provide part of the information manually via some propriety interface or connection.

In any case based on the received information the centralized node will generate measurement bandwidth parameter(s). Measurement bandwidth can be different for different carrier frequencies. Similarly network may not employ the same Radio Resource Management (RRM) strategies on different carries. In addition the network may decide to use different measurement bandwidths for different types of measurement quantities even on the same carrier frequency. As a result a centralized node may generate more than one measurement bandwidth parameter. It will then configure or signal the measurement bandwidth parameters to each of the base station in the coverage area. The signaled measurement bandwidth parameters are in a preferred embodiment associated with the corresponding carrier frequencies and/or if necessary with the corresponding measurement quantities.

Fig. 5 illustrates a separate dedicated central node 400 configured to receive information from all base stations such as eNodeBs and also configured to provide the configured measurement bandwidths to all base stations.

Fig. 6 is a view of a system configuration where a centralized node is used for measurement bandwidth configuration. In the system configuration shown in Fig. 6 one of the existing radio base stations here denoted 101a is configured to act as the centralized node 400.

5 DISTRIBUTED METHOD

10 In accordance with another embodiment of the present invention each base station receives the necessary information needed for measurement bandwidth configuration. The information contents can for example be the same the same as described above. Each base station can be configured to receive the information from all or sub-set of base stations in a particular coverage area. Furthermore, the method for setting the measurement bandwidth can also preconfigured at each base station.

15 In accordance with one embodiment the measurement bandwidth is set to ensure that within a given coverage area all Base stations use the same measurement bandwidth for a given carrier frequency. When any input that could influence the measurement bandwidth is changed the corresponding base station can be configured to re-evaluate the new measurement bandwidth parameter(s). Similar re-evaluation is then also likely to take place at other base station.

20 After re-evaluation one possibility is that each base station starts using the new measurement bandwidth parameter(s) without informing other base station. The underlying assumption in such a scenario is that that all base stations will re-evaluate similar parameter values. In accordance with another embodiment the base station where measurement bandwidth is reconfigured communicates this to all or sub-set of base stations in the coverage area. A base station can then be
25 configured to start using the new measurement bandwidth(s) only after receiving confirmation that consistent measurement bandwidth is used in all other base stations.

Compared to a centralized method, a distributed method can result in more signaling exchange between the eNode B. However, one advantage is that no separate or dedicated node is needed for measurement bandwidth configuration.

5 In Fig. 7 a flowchart illustrating steps performed in accordance with the bandwidth configuration procedure described above. First, in a step 701, a set of information related to bandwidth measurement is received. Next, in a step 703, measurement bandwidth is calculated and configured for the base stations. Thereupon in a step 705 the bandwidths calculated and configured in step 703 are signaled to the base stations.

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Using the node and method in accordance with the invention will allow for configuration of measurement bandwidths in various combination of environment and scenarios, e.g. in heterogeneous cell transmission bandwidth deployment scenario. Also, the measurement bandwidth can be conveniently modified whenever there is changed in cell planning,
15 network upgrade etc. Further it is ensured that consistent measurement bandwidth parameters are used in all cells in a given coverage area; which in turn leads to consistent measurement performance which ensures robust mobility performance.

THE CLAIMS DEFINING THE INVENTION ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. A method of configuring measurement bandwidth for a plurality of base stations belonging to a cellular radio system, wherein the base stations are configured to signal the measurement bandwidth to user equipments connected to the cellular radio system for performing downlink neighbor cell measurements over the signaled measurement bandwidth in the user equipment, the method comprising the steps of:
- receiving by a centralized dedicated node, a set of radio system configuration and performance information;
- configuring by the centralized dedicated node, the measurement bandwidth for each of the plurality of base stations using the received set of information; and
- signaling the configured measurement bandwidth from the centralized dedicated node to each of the plurality of base stations.
2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the set of information comprises one or more of the following:
- minimum of cell bandwidths of all cells on a carrier for each carrier,
maximum of cell bandwidths of all cells on a carrier for each carrier,
cell transmission bandwidth of all cells on a carrier for each carrier,
radio environment,
measurement gap patterns,
deployment scenario,
information pertaining to modification in cell planning,
measurement, and
mobility specific radio resource management information.
3. The method according to claim 1, wherein at least one measurement bandwidth is configured for each carrier frequency.
4. The method according to claim 1, wherein the centralized dedicated node is an operations and maintenance node connected to all base stations.

5. The method according to claim 1, wherein the set of received information or part of it is communicated to the centralized dedicated node via an interface between the centralized dedicated node and the base stations.
6. The method according to claim 5, wherein the centralized dedicated node signals one or more measurement bandwidths to the base stations via the interface between the centralized dedicated node and the base stations.
7. The method according to claim 1, wherein the centralized dedicated node is one of the base stations acting as a master base station.
8. The method according to claim 7, wherein the master base station is connected to all other base stations via an X2 interface in an Enhanced UMTS Terrestrial Radio Access Network (E-UTRAN) system and receives the set of information via the X2 interface.
9. The method according to claim 8, wherein the master base station signals one or more measurement bandwidths to the base stations via the X2 interface in the E-UTRAN system.
10. The method according to claim 1, wherein each base station signals to connected user equipments, the configured measurement bandwidth received from the centralized dedicated node, wherein the user equipments utilize the configured measurement bandwidth for performing downlink measurements.
11. A node for configuring measurement bandwidth for a plurality of base stations belonging to a cellular radio system, wherein the base stations are configured to signal the measurement bandwidth to user equipments connected to the cellular radio system for performing downlink neighbor cell measurements over the signaled measurement bandwidth in the user equipment, the node comprising:
 - means for receiving a set of radio system configuration and performance information,

means for configuring the measurement bandwidth using the received set of information, and

means for signaling the configured measurement bandwidth from the node to each of the plurality of base stations.

- 5 12. The node according to claim 11, wherein the node is adapted to receive one or more of the following in the set of information:

minimum of cell bandwidths of all cells on a carrier for each carrier,
maximum of cell bandwidths of all cells on a carrier for each carrier,
cell transmission bandwidth of all cells on a carrier for each carrier,
10 radio environment,
measurement gap patterns,
deployment scenario,
information pertaining to modification in cell planning,
measurement, and
15 mobility specific radio resource management information.

13. The node according to claim 11, wherein the node is adapted to configure at least one measurement bandwidth for each carrier frequency.

14. The node according to claim 11, wherein the node is a centralized dedicated node connected to all base stations.

- 20 15. The node according to claim 14, wherein the centralized dedicated node is an operations and maintenance node connected to all base stations.

16. The node according to claim 14, further comprising, means for receiving the set of information or part of the set via an interface between the centralized dedicated node and the base stations.

- 25 17. The node according to claim 16, wherein the centralized dedicated node is adapted to signal one or more measurement bandwidths to the base stations via an interface between the centralized dedicated node and the base stations.

18. The node according to claim 14, wherein the centralized dedicated node is one of the base stations acting as a master base station.

19. The node according to claim 18, wherein the master base station is connected to all other base stations via an X2 interface in an Enhanced UMTS Terrestrial Radio Access Network (E-UTRAN) system and is adapted to receive a required set of information via the X2 interface.

20. The node according to claim 19, wherein the master base station is adapted to signal one or more measurement bandwidths to the base stations via the X2 interface in the E-UTRAN system.

21. A method of configuring measurement bandwidth for a plurality of base stations belonging to a cellular radio system, wherein the base stations are configured to signal the measurement bandwidth to user equipments connected to the cellular radio system for performing downlink neighbor cell measurements by the user equipments over the signaled measurement bandwidth, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving by each of the plurality of base stations, a set of radio system configuration and performance information;

utilizing the received set of information by each given base station to configure the measurement bandwidth for use within the cell served by each given base station; and

signaling the configured measurement bandwidth from each given base station to the user equipments operating in the cell served by the given base station.

22. The method according to claim 21, wherein each base station begins using the configured measurement bandwidth without informing other base stations in the cellular radio system.

23. The method according to claim 21, further comprising the steps of:

signaling by each given base station, the configured measurement bandwidth to other base stations in the cellular radio system; and

receiving by each given base station, confirmation from the other base stations that the configured measurement bandwidth is consistent with the measurement bandwidths being used in the other base stations;

- 5 wherein the step of signaling the configured measurement bandwidth to the user equipments is performed only after the confirmation is received.

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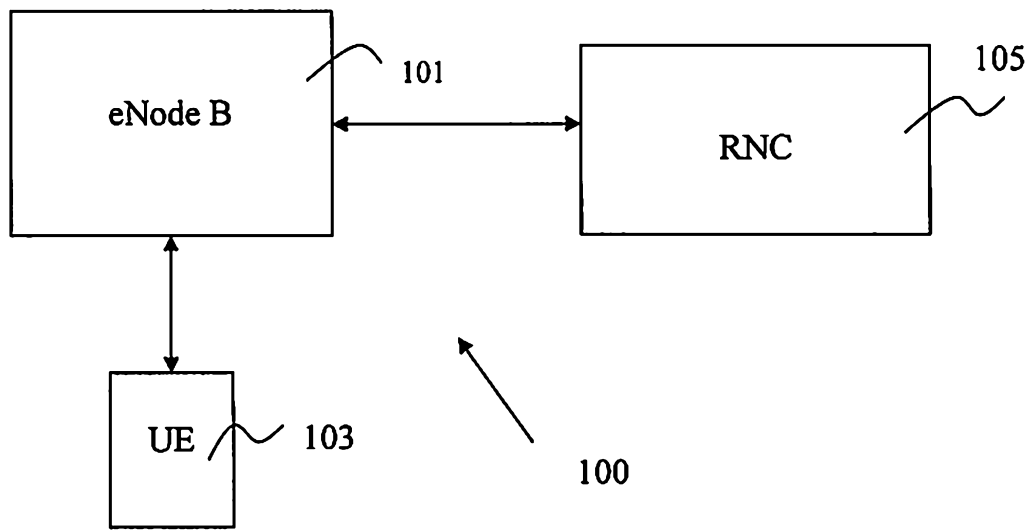


Fig. 1

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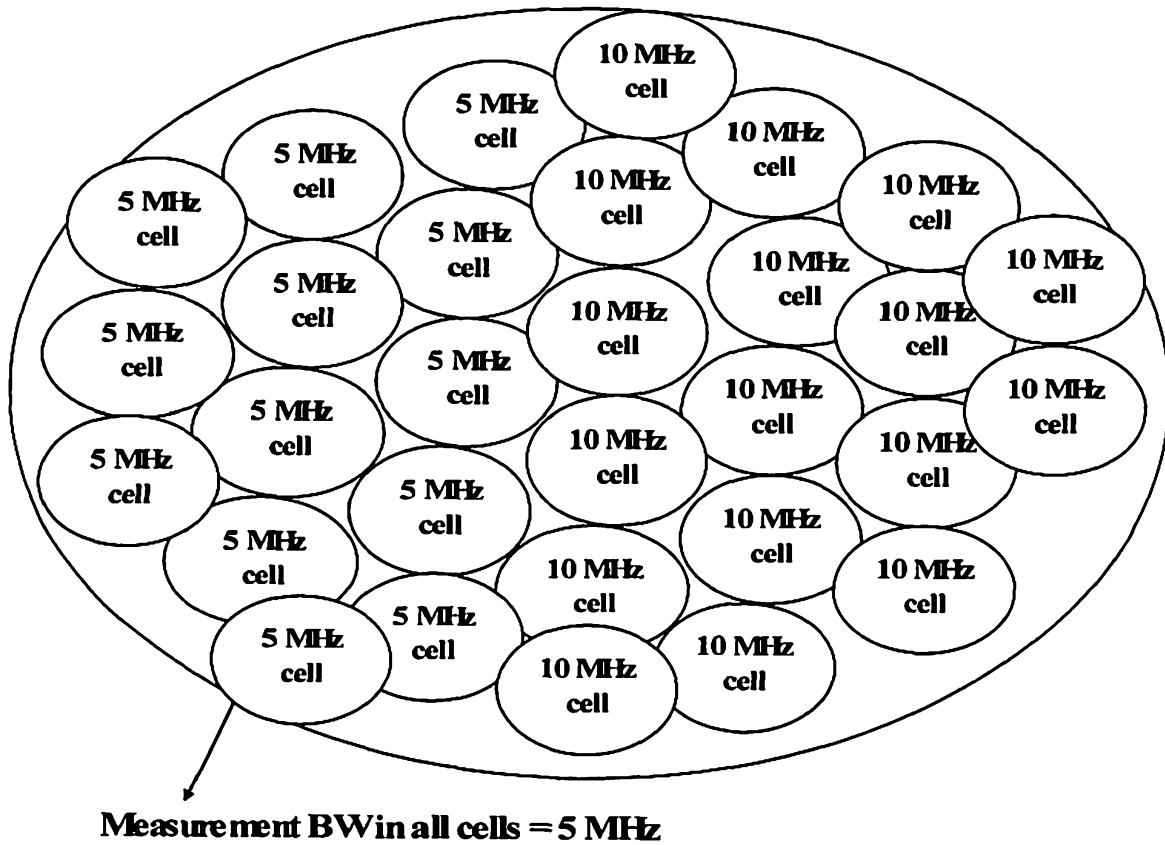


Fig. 2

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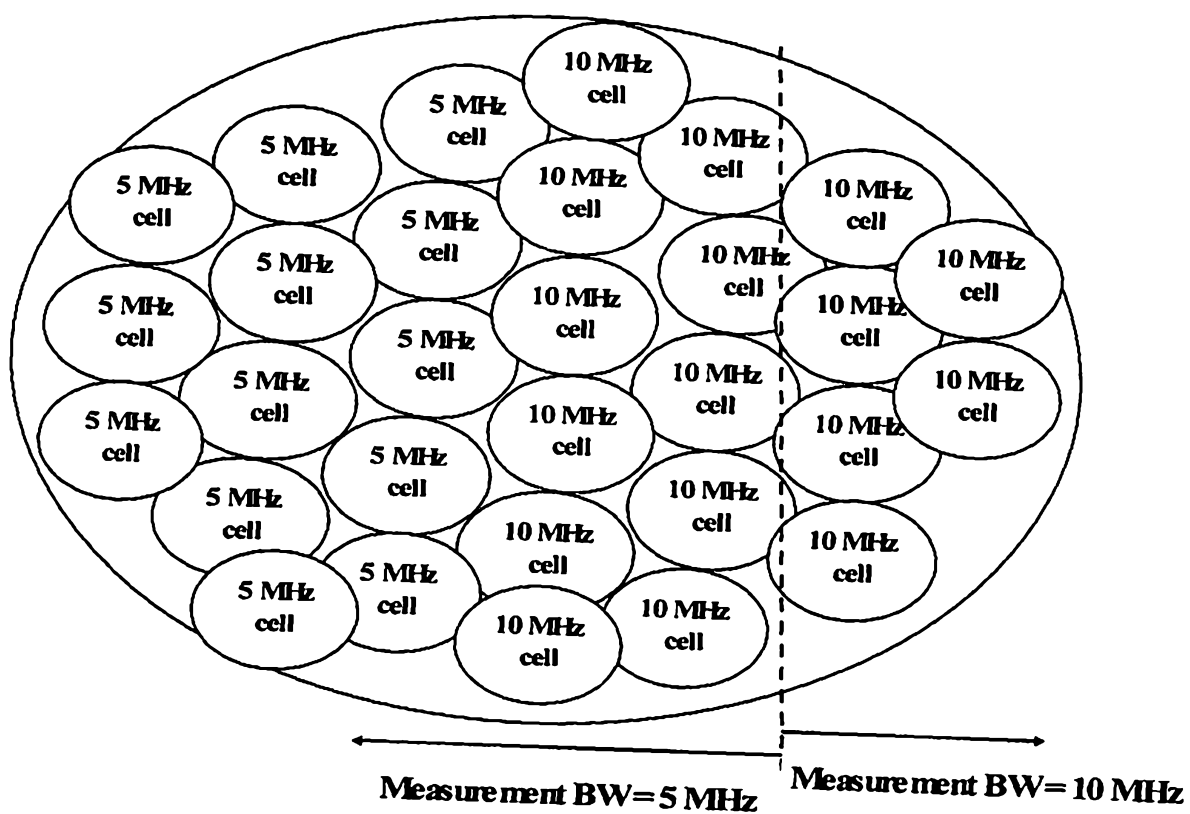


Fig. 3

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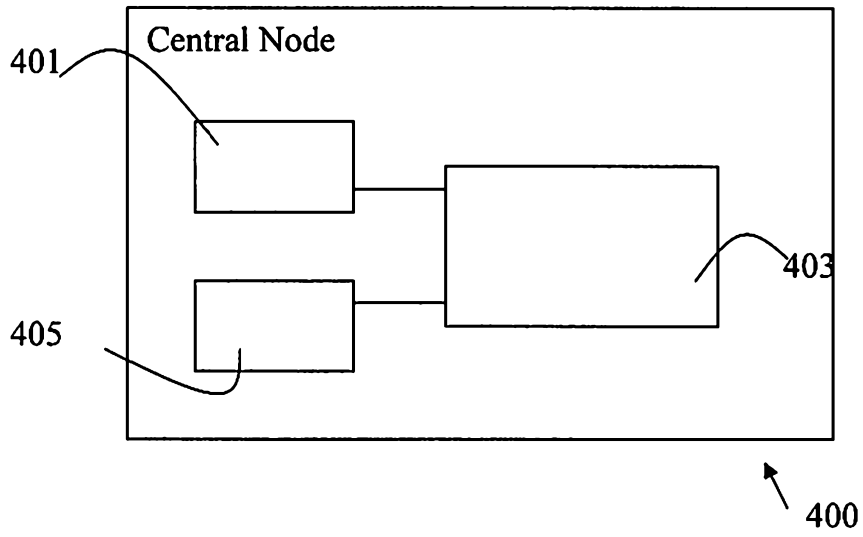


Fig. 4

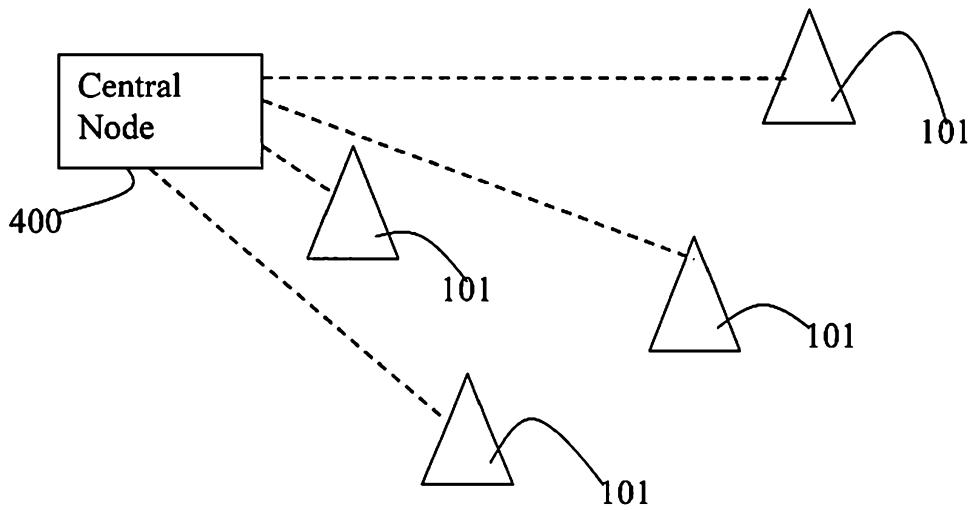


Fig. 5

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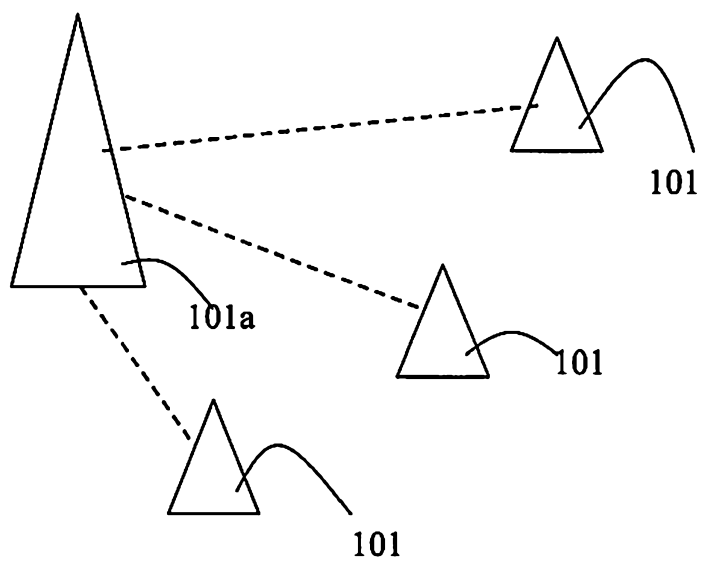


Fig. 6

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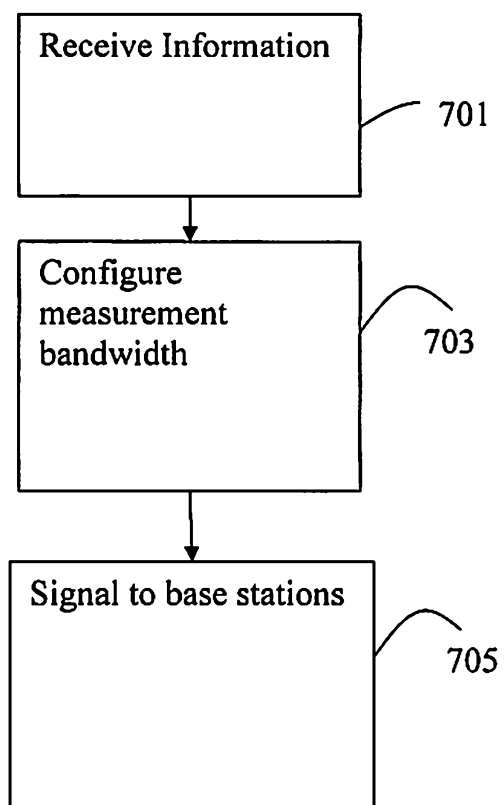


Fig. 7