

A-Core Container

Power consumption of 5G base stations of three operators



Overview

Do 5G base stations consume a lot of energy?

The energy consumption of the fifth generation (5G) of mobile networks is one of the major concerns of the telecom industry. However, there is not currently an accurate and tractable approach to evaluate 5G base stations' (BSs') power consumption.

How will 5G affect the energy consumption of mobile operators?

Edge compute facilities needed to support local processing and new internet of things (IoT) services will also add to overall network power usage. Exact estimates differ by source, but MTN says the industry consensus is that 5G will double to triple energy consumption for mobile operators, once networks scale.

Should power consumption models be used in 5G networks?

This restricts the potential use of the power models, as their validity and accuracy remain unclear. Future work includes the further development of the power consumption models to form a unified evaluation framework that enables the quantification and optimization of energy consumption and energy efficiency of 5G networks.

Will 5G double to Triple energy consumption?

Exact estimates differ by source, but MTN says the industry consensus is that 5G will double to triple energy consumption for mobile operators, once networks scale. Warnings of more power consumption are coming from some Chinese operators that are leading the world in 5G deployments.

Does China Mobile have a 5G base station?

China Mobile has tried using lower cost deployments of MIMO antennas, specifically 32T32R and sometimes 8T8R rather than 64T64R, according to MTN. However, Li says 5G base stations are carrying five times the traffic as

when equipped with only 4G, pushing up power consumption.

Can machine learning predict energy consumption for 5g/4g radio base stations?

To further develop energy modelling methodology and attempt to answer the questions presented in the previous section, different machine learning algorithm's ability to predict energy consumption is investigated for 5G/4G radio base stations.

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