



**BITS Pilani**  
Hyderabad Campus

# Distributed Edge Intelligence with Integrated Terrestrial and Non-Terrestrial Networks in 6G

4th India Spectrum Management Conference, 7-8th November 2024

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# About

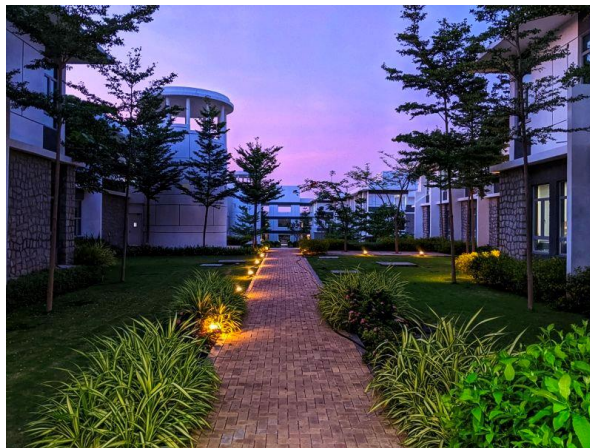


## Birla Institute of Technology and Science Pilani



- 5 campuses (4: India, 1: Dubai)
- $\cong$  18,000 Students
- $\cong$  950 Faculty Members

## Department of Computer Science and Information Systems (Hyderabad Campus)



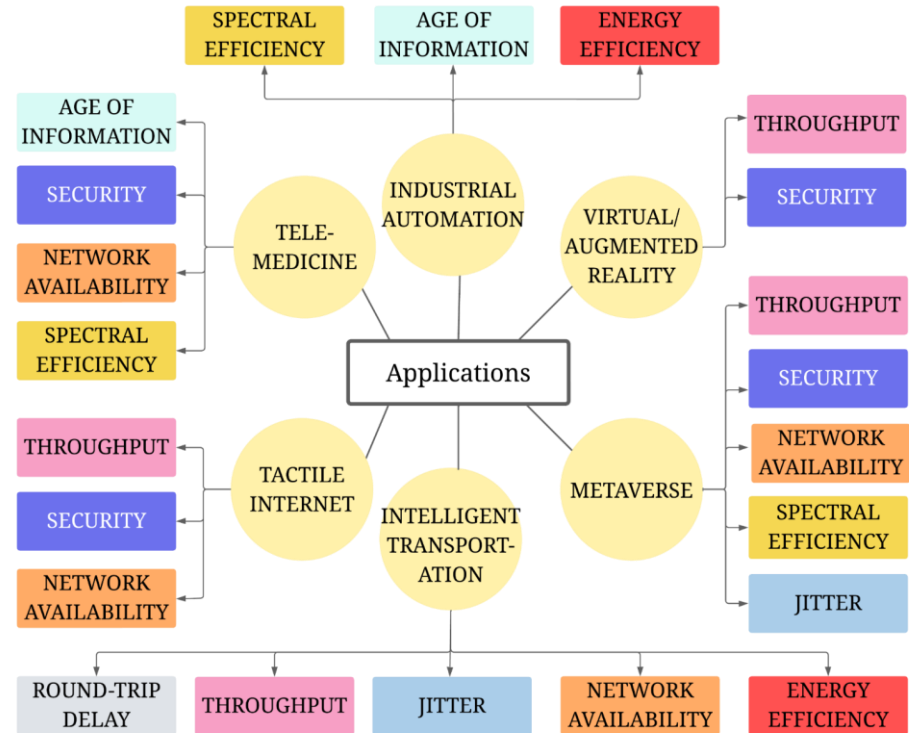
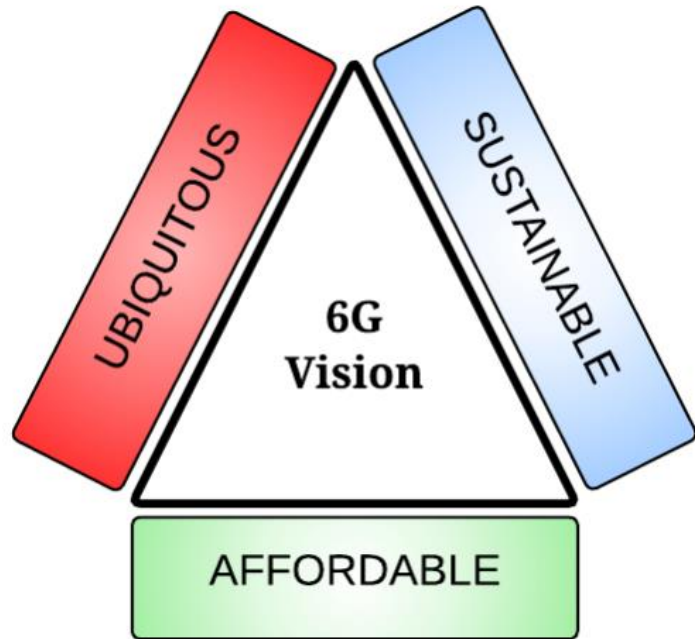
- 26 Faculty Members
- 64 PhD Students

## VIDVAN: Vital Intelligence for Dynamic and Versatile Advanced Networking Research Group



- 6G and Wireless Networks
- Non-terrestrial Networks
- Edge and Distributed Computing

# 6G: Vision, Applications and their KPI Requirements



1. <https://dot.gov.in/sites/default/files/Bharat%206G%20Vision%20Statement%20-%20full.pdf>

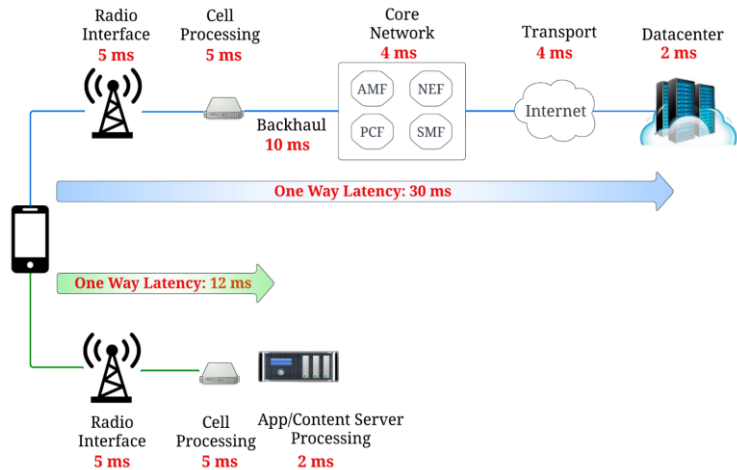
2. Nida Fatima, Paresh Saxena, and Giovanni Giambene. (2023). Deep reinforcement learning based computation offloading for xURLLC services with UAV-assisted IoT-based multi-access edge computing system. *Wireless Networks*, pp. 1–17. DOI: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11276-023-03596-y>

# 6G Enabling Technologies

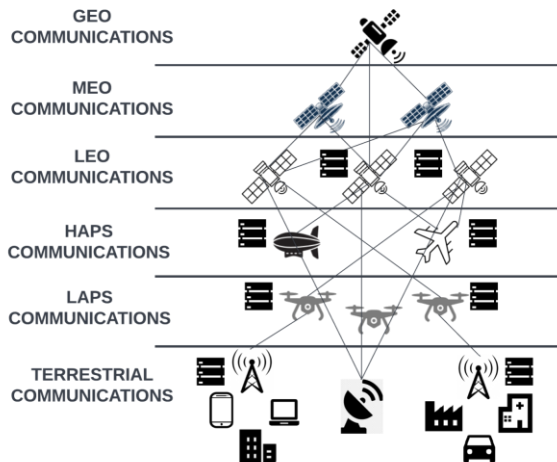


## 6G Enabling Technologies

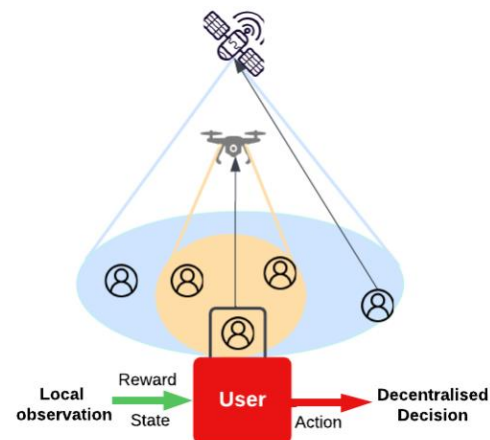
### Multi-access Edge Computing



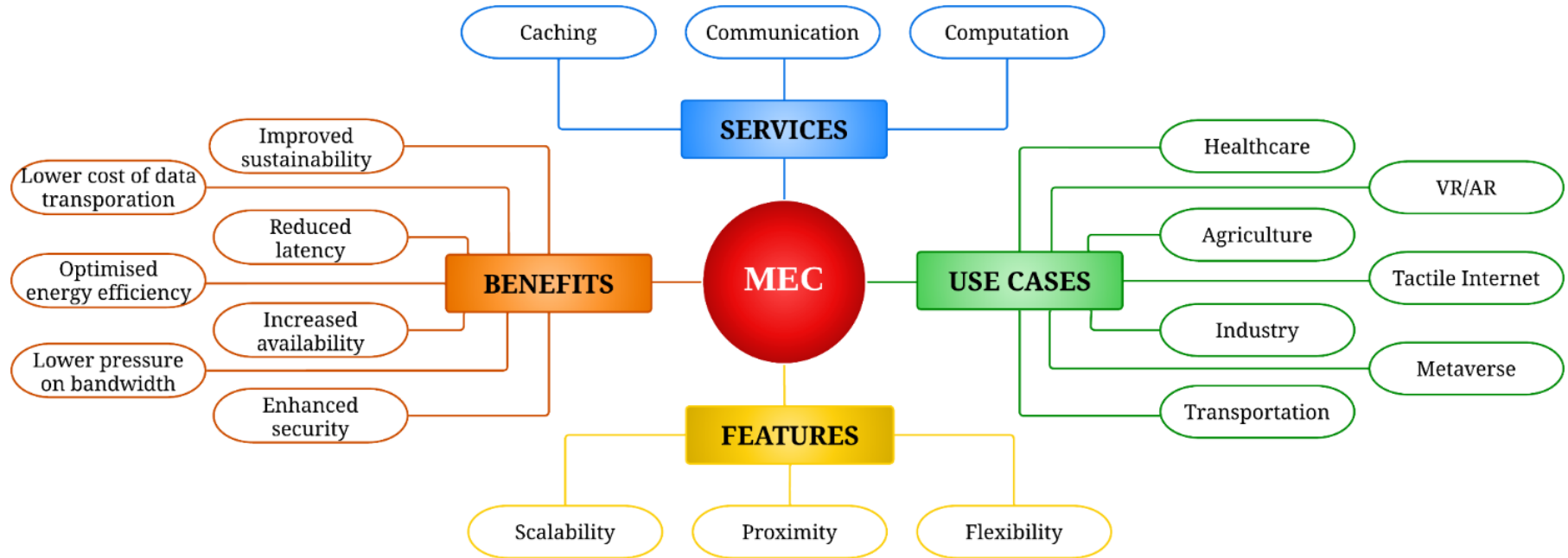
### Integrated Terrestrial and Non-Terrestrial Network



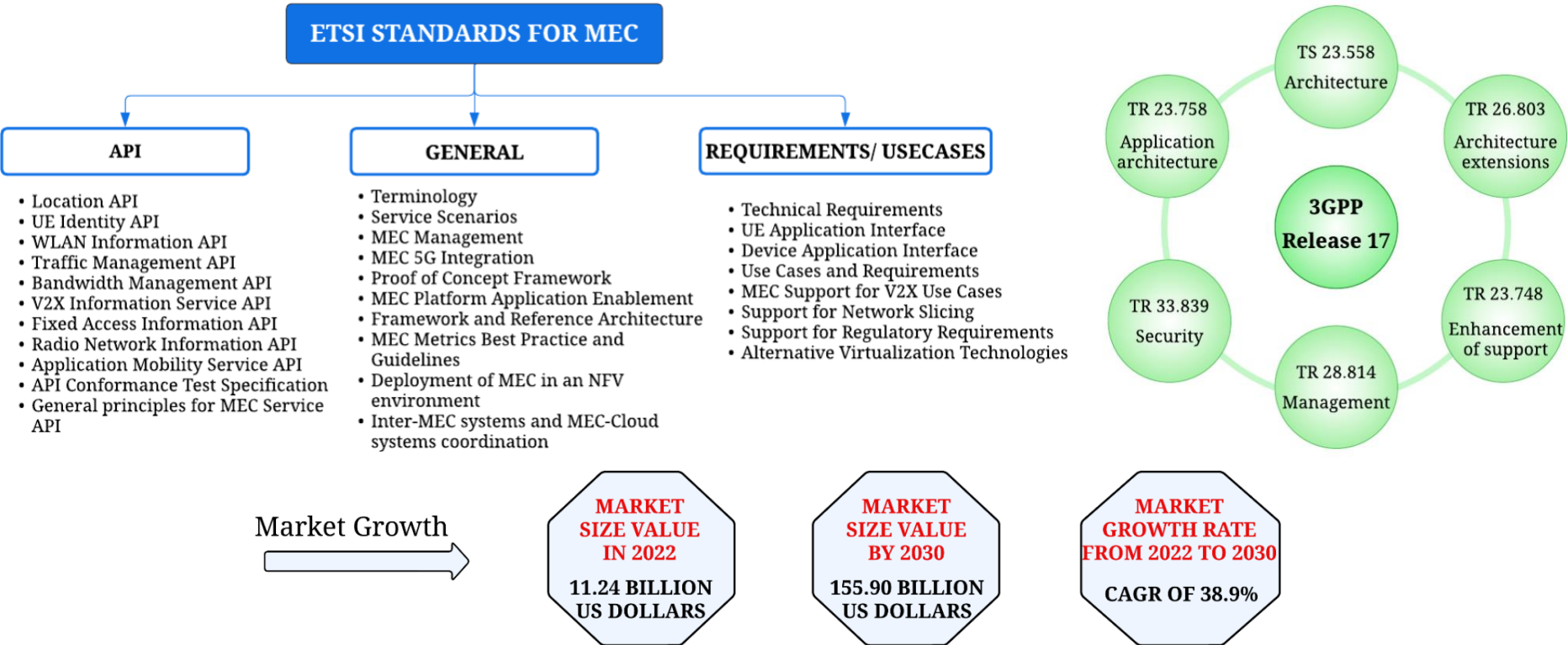
### Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning (Reinforcement Learning)



# Multi-Access Edge Computing: Scope



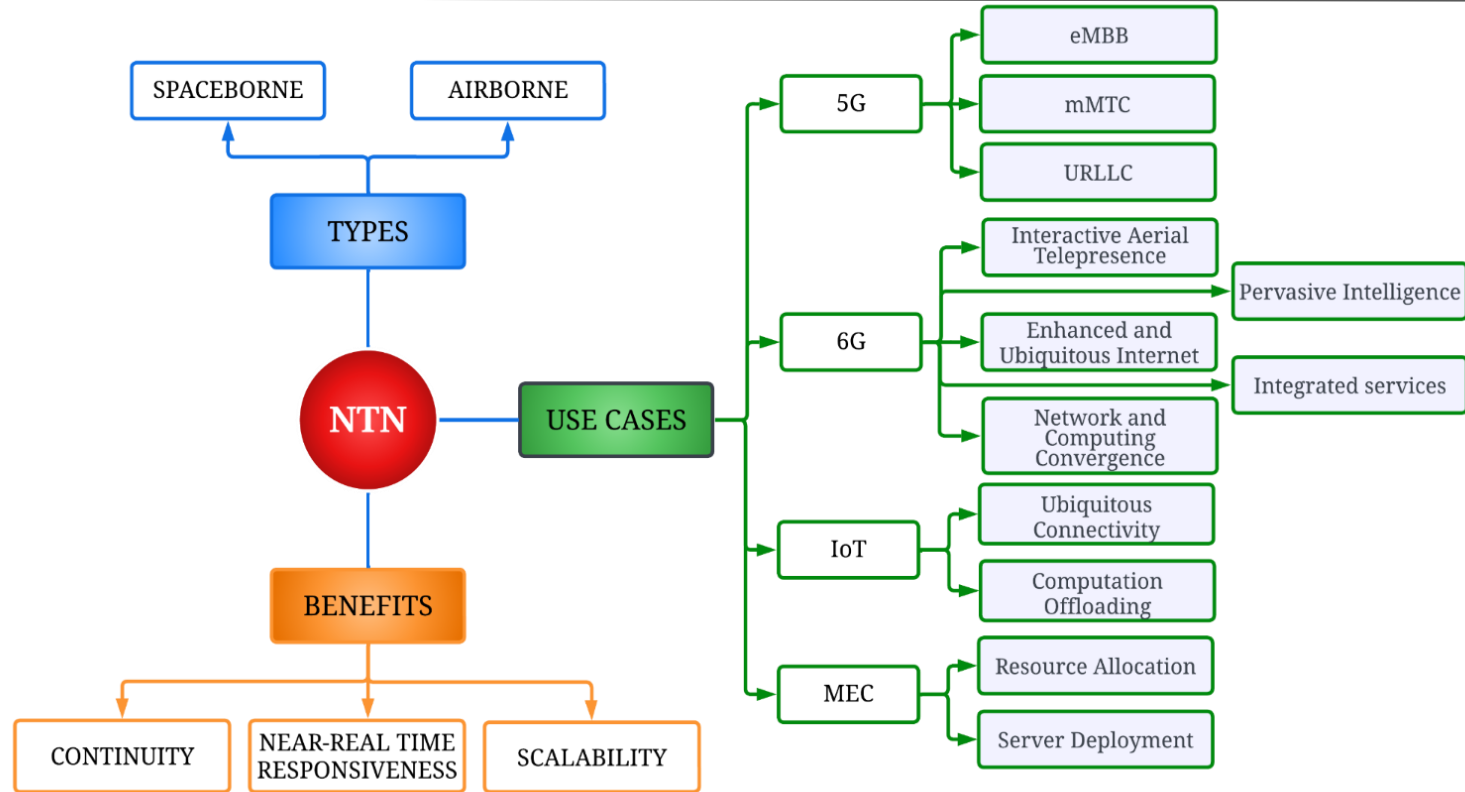
# Multi-Access Edge Computing: Standardization and Market Growth



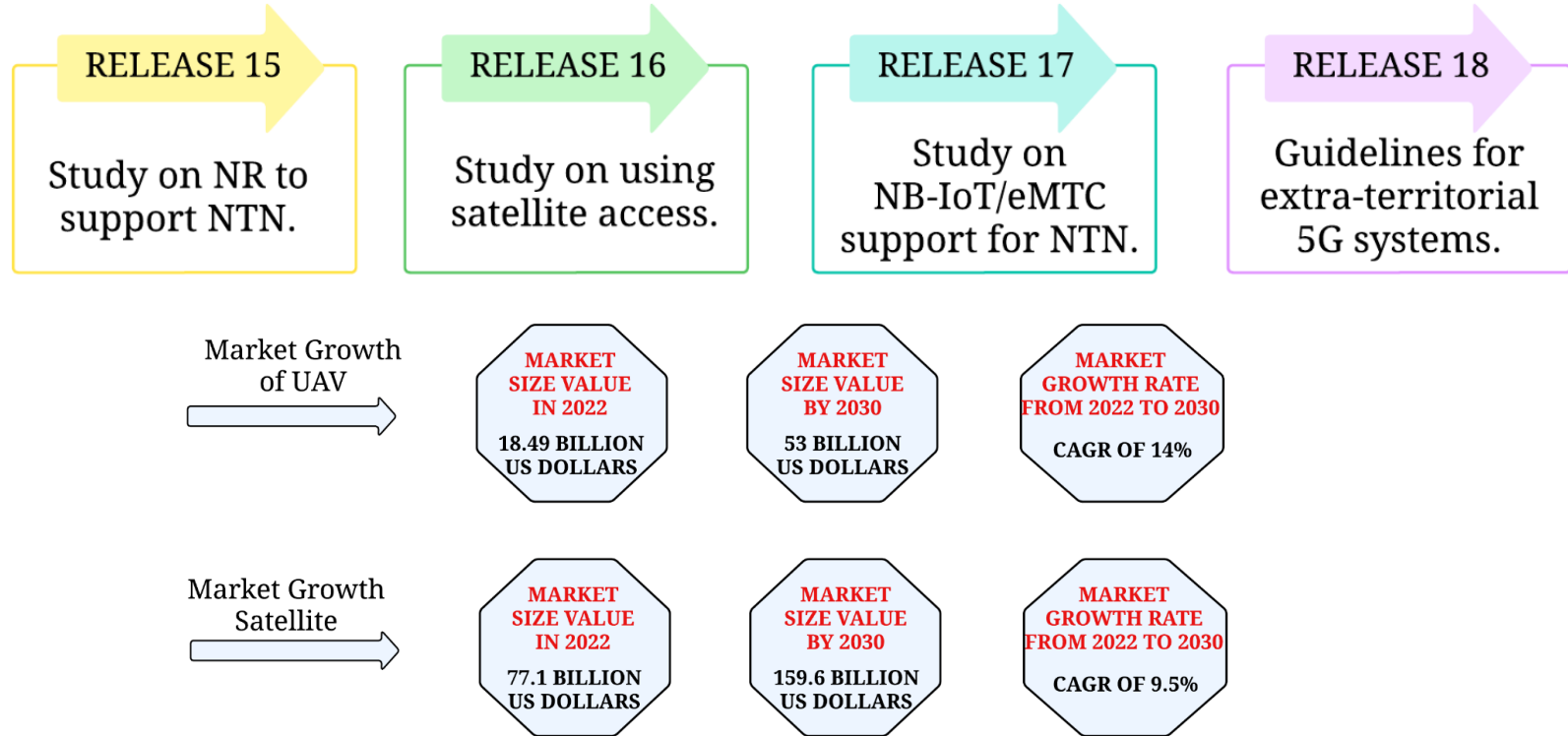
6. <https://www.globenewswire.com/en/news-release/2022/07/07/2475942/0/en/Edge-Computing-Market-Size-to-Hit-at-USD-116-5-Billion-by-2030.html>

7. <https://www.3gpp.org/news-events/3gpp-news/edge-sa6>

# Non-Terrestrial Networks: Scope



# NTNs: Standardization and Market Growth



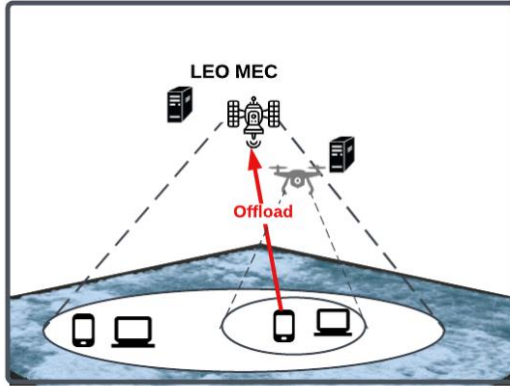
9. <https://www.3gpp.org/news-events/partner-news/ntn-rel17>

10. <https://www.globenewswire.com/news-release/2024/10/09/2960744/0/en/Unmanned-Aerial-Vehicle-UAV-Market-Valuation-Skyrocketing-to-Reach-US-119-71-Billion-By-2032-Astute-Analytica.html>

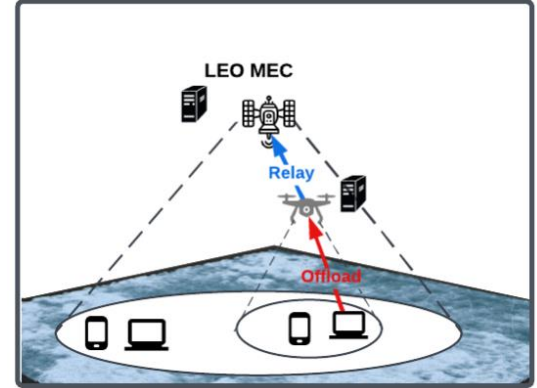
# Computation Offloading in NTN-empowered MEC



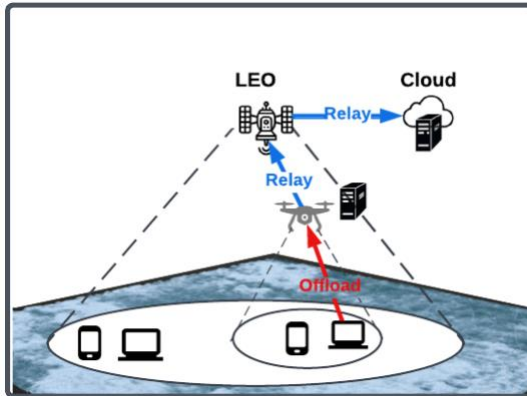
User can offload task to either **LEO MEC** or **UAV MEC**.



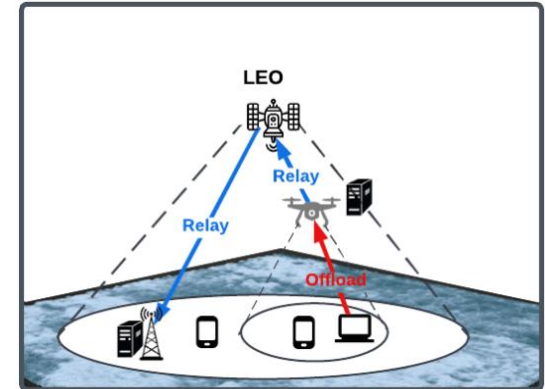
**UAV MEC** can perform computation and relay offloaded task to **LEO MEC**.



**LEO** to relay offloaded task to **Cloud**.



**LEO** to relay offloaded task to **Terrestrial MEC**.



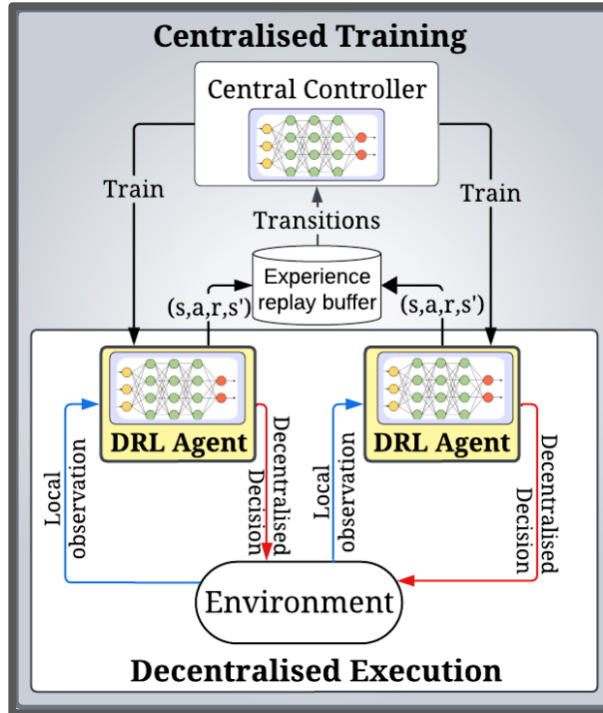
# Methodology for finding Computation Offloading Strategy



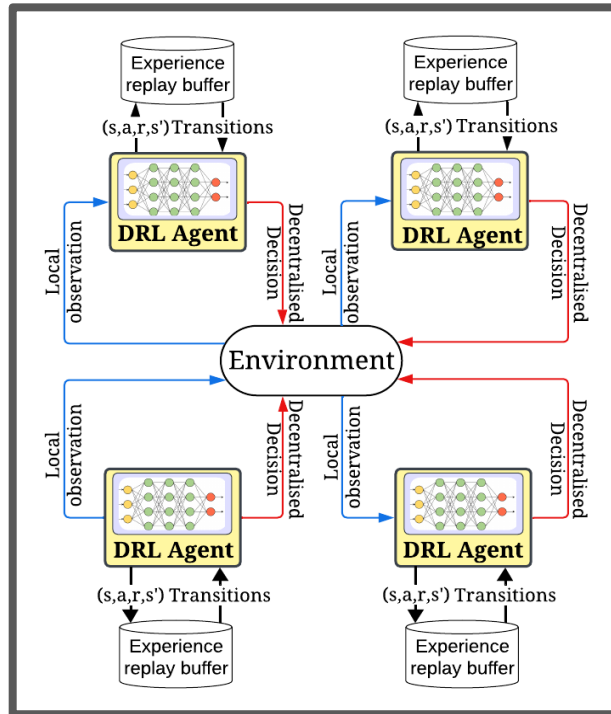
Methodology	Explanation	Connection with the work
Reinforcement Learning (RL)	RL excels in making decisions in uncertain environments without prior knowledge of the system.	Each UE acts as an agent and does not have the complete information of the environment.
Deep RL (DRL)	DRL utilizes deep neural networks to obtain the optimal policy. Highly suitable for dynamic and large scale environments	The considered environment is both large scale and dynamic, hence utilization DRL is essential.
Multi-Agent DRL (MADRL)	MARL is adopted when multiple agents are involved.	The considered environment has multiple UEs taking offloading decisions simultaneously, hence MARL is used.
MA Distributed DRL (MADDRL)	Decentralised approach enables agents to make decisions independently.	Each UE follows a distributed approach by taking the offloading decision using its local observation.

# Multi-agent Distributed Deep Reinforcement Learning

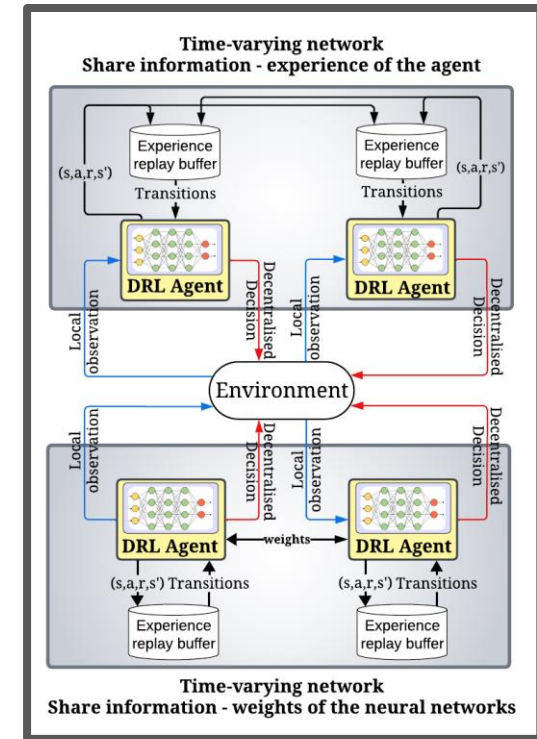
## Centralised Training and Decentralised Execution



## Independent Learners

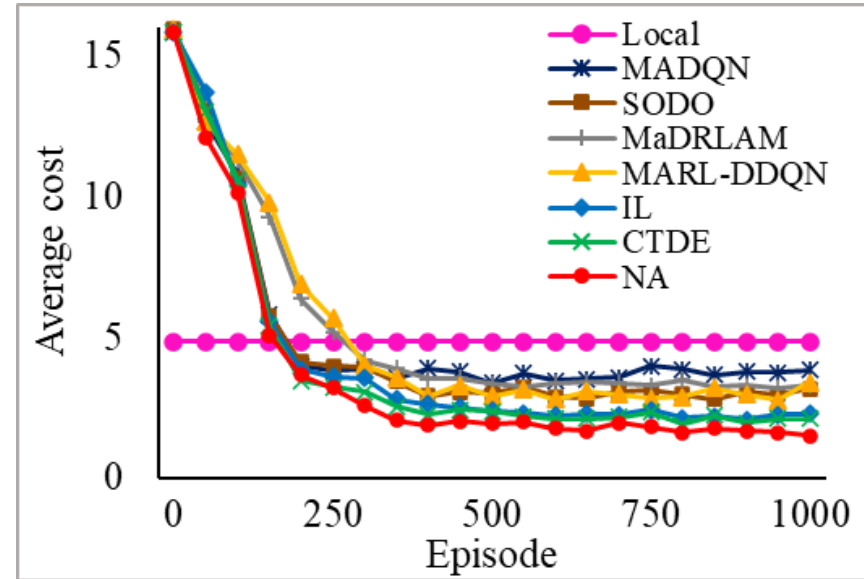


## Networked Agents



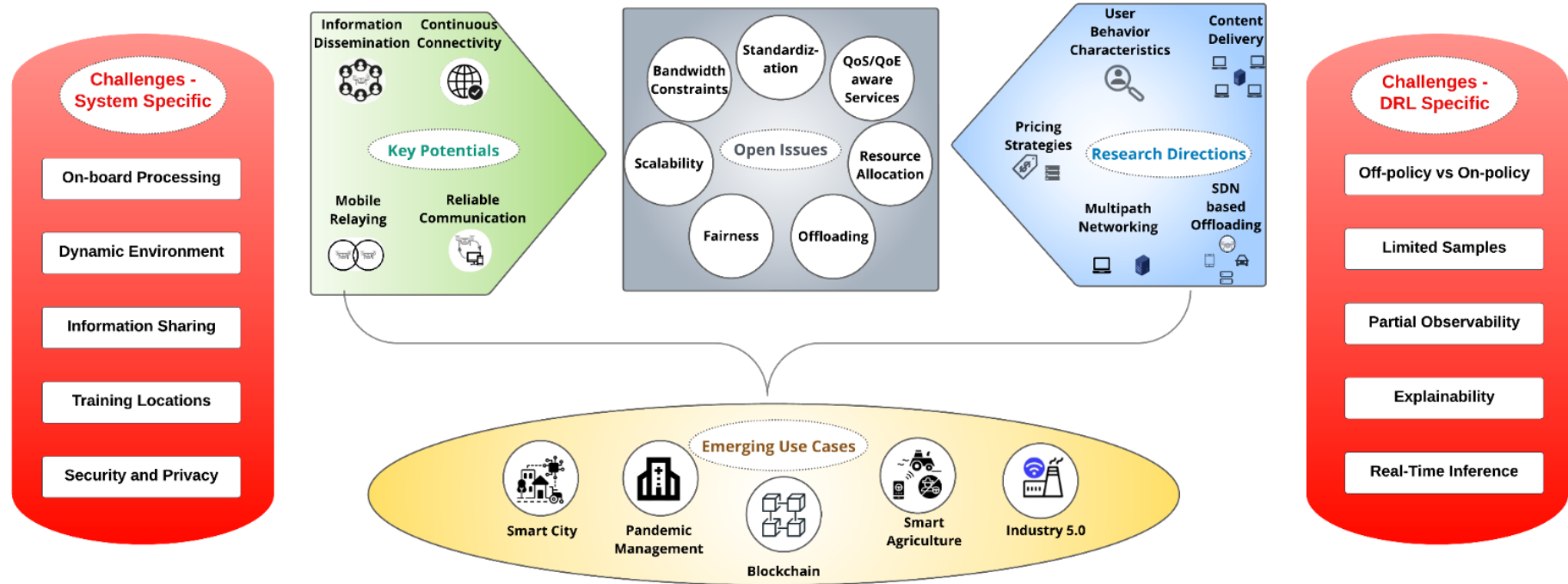
# Computation offloading using MADDRL

- In order to develop an efficient computation offloading policy, our approach utilizes the three learning frameworks of MADDRL including CTDE, IL and NA that enables users to make decentralized computation offloading decisions.
- Our proposed methods consistently outperform the baseline methods in minimizing the cost defined as weighted sum of delay and energy consumption.



14. Nida Fatima, [Paresh Saxena](#), and Giovanni Giambene. (2024). Computation Offloading in NTN-empowered MEC using Multi-Agent Distributed Deep Reinforcement Learning. In 2024 IEEE Global Communications Conference (GLOBECOM), Accepted.
15. Nida Fatima, [Paresh Saxena](#), and Giovanni Giambene. (2024). Policy Gradient-based MADDRL Approach for Computation Offloading in NTN-empowered MEC. In IEEE International Conference on Cloud Computing Technology and Science (CLOUDCOM), Accepted.
16. Nida Fatima, [Paresh Saxena](#), and Giovanni Giambene. (2024). Computation Offloading in NTN-empowered MEC: A Partially Observable Multi-Agent Distributed Deep Reinforcement Learning Approach. Submitted to Ad Hoc Networks.

# Challenges and Opportunities



# Wireless World Research Forum (WWRF53)

18<sup>th</sup> Feb to 20<sup>th</sup> Feb 2025, BITS Pilani, Hyderabad



**WIRELESS WORLD  
RESEARCH FORUM**



## Smart Wireless Systems for Collective Prosperity In a Green Future

53<sup>rd</sup> Wireless World Research Forum

BITS Pilani Hyderabad Campus, Hyderabad, India  
18-20 February 2025



<https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/wwrf53/>

# THANK YOU

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