



**CREW**



# FIRE Workshop

## LOG-a-TEC testbed: Cognitive Radio Networking Experimentation Using the VESNA Platform

Carolina Fortuna, Matevž Vučnik  
Jožef Stefan Institute, Ljubljana, Slovenia  
<http://sensorlab.ijs.si/>

Future Internet Week  
May 9, 2012 – Aalborg, Denmark



**THALES**

**EADS**



The research leading to these results has received funding from the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7/2007-2013) under grant agreement n° 258301 (CREW project).

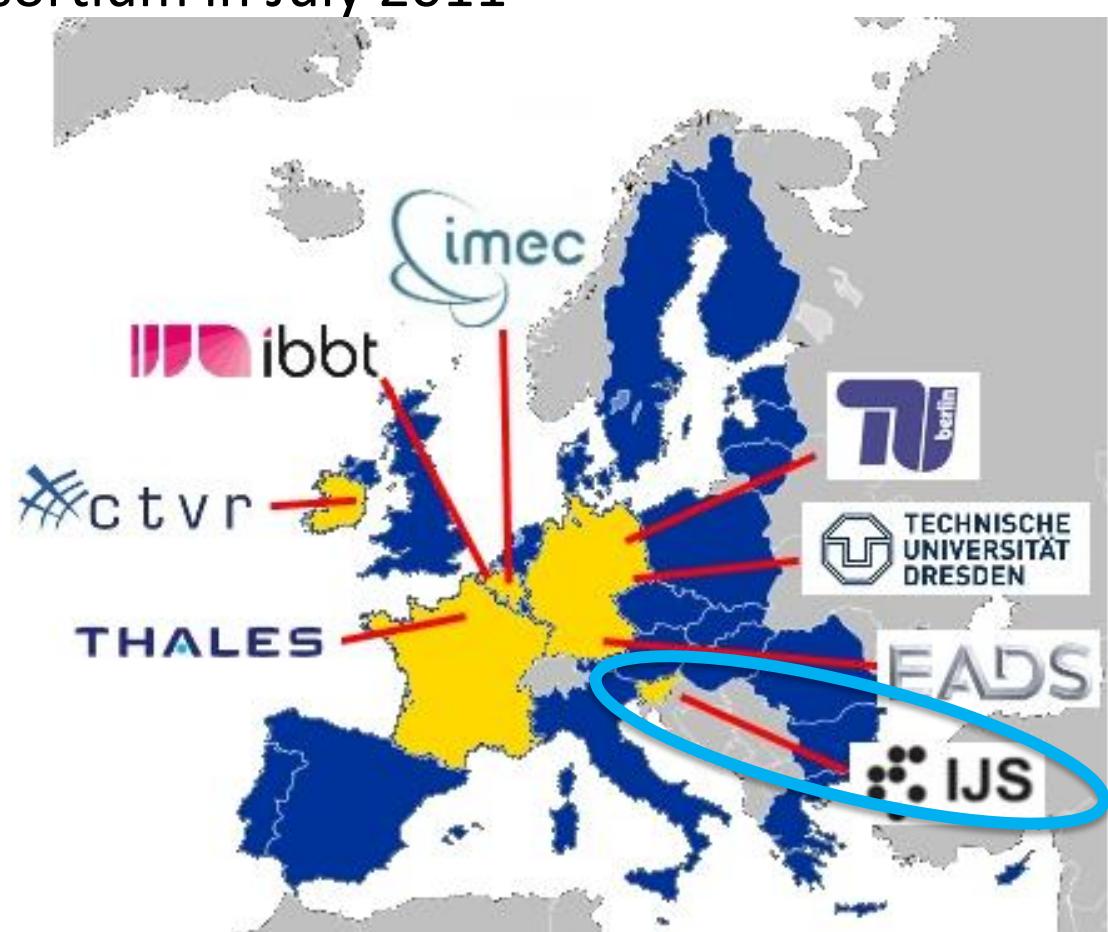
# Outline

- Introduction
- LOG-a-TEC/JSI testbeds
- VESNA sensor nodes
- ISM spectrum sensing
- TV spectrum sensing
- Testbed reconfiguration
- Radio planning
  
- CREW Open Call 2
  
- Cognitive networking
- Summary

# Introduction

## ■ Who are we?

- Public research institute
- Based in Ljubljana, Slovenia
- Joined the CREW consortium in July 2011





## Jožef Stefan (1835-1893)

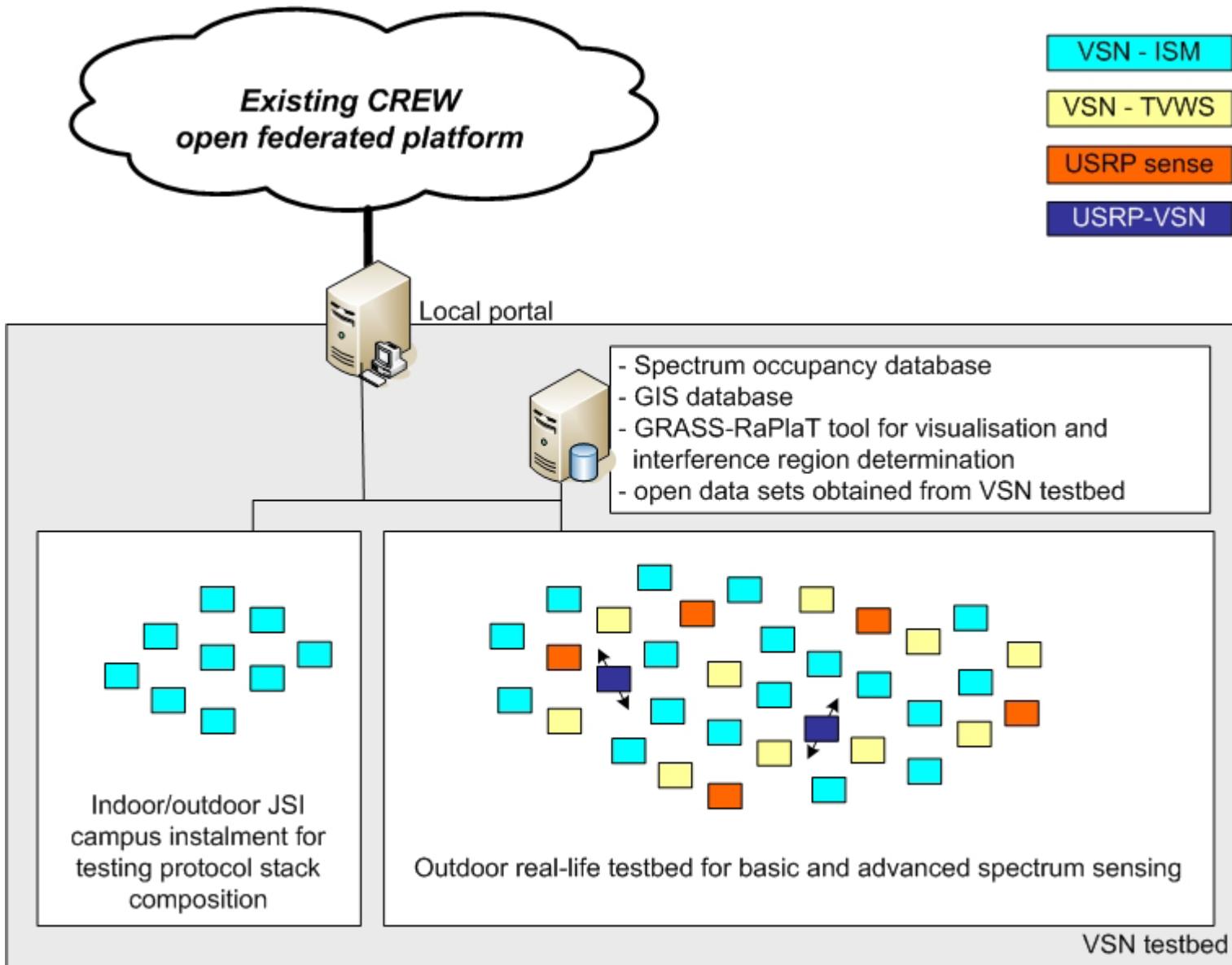
Born	24 March 1835 <a href="#">St Peter</a> (today in <a href="#">Klagenfurt am Wörthersee</a> ), <a href="#">Austrian Empire</a>
Died	7 January 1893 (aged 57) <a href="#">Vienna</a> , <a href="#">Austria-Hungary</a>
Residence	<a href="#">Austria</a>
Citizenship	<a href="#">Austrian Empire</a>
Nationality	<a href="#">Slovene</a>

Fields	<a href="#">Physicist</a>
Institutions	<a href="#">University of Vienna</a>
Alma mater	<a href="#">University of Vienna</a>
Doctoral advisor	<a href="#">Andreas von Ettingshausen</a>
Doctoral students	<a href="#">Ludwig Boltzmann</a> <a href="#">Marian Smoluchowski</a> <a href="#">Johann Josef Loschmidt</a>
Known for	<a href="#">Stefan–Boltzmann law</a> <a href="#">Stefan–Boltzmann constant</a> $\sigma$ <a href="#">Stefan problem</a> <a href="#">Stefan's equation</a> <a href="#">Stefan's formula</a> <a href="#">Stefan flow</a> <a href="#">Stefan number</a> <a href="#">Maxwell–Stefan diffusion</a>
Notable awards	<a href="#">Lieben Prize</a> (1865)

- **Jožef Stefan Institute, founded in 1949, is the leading Slovenian national research organization in the areas of natural sciences and technology:**
  - information and communication technologies & electronics
  - physics
  - chemistry, biochemistry & nanotechnology
  - environment
  - nuclear technology
- **> 600 researchers (total staff ~1000)**
- **> 200 on-going international projects including many funded in the frame of FP6 (5 still running), FP7 (~75) and EURATOM (24)**



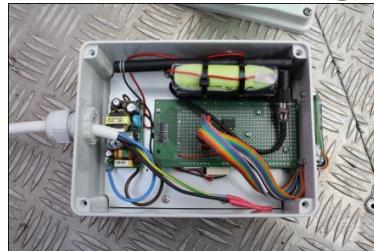
# The conceptual VESNA-based testbeds



# LOG-a-TEC/JSI testbeds

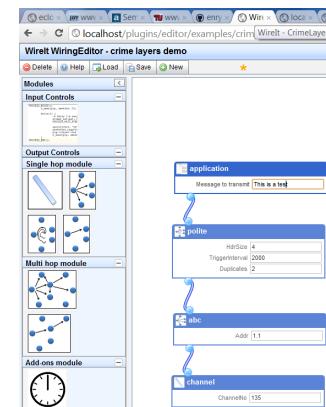
## ■ LOG-a-TEC site (50 VESNAs):

- outdoors site in the city of Logatec, Slovenia (installed on public infrastructure, e.g. light poles, etc.)
- used for spectrum sensing and cognitive radio experiments



## ■ JSI sites (~2 x 20 VESNAs):

- two combined indoor and outdoor installations at JSI campus
  - one used for spectrum sensing and cognitive radio experimentation – meant as test site for LOG-a-TEC
  - one used for cognitive networking experimentation



## ■ Wireless sensor network containing approx. 50 nodes in three clusters

- Industrial zone, city center
- All nodes are VESNA

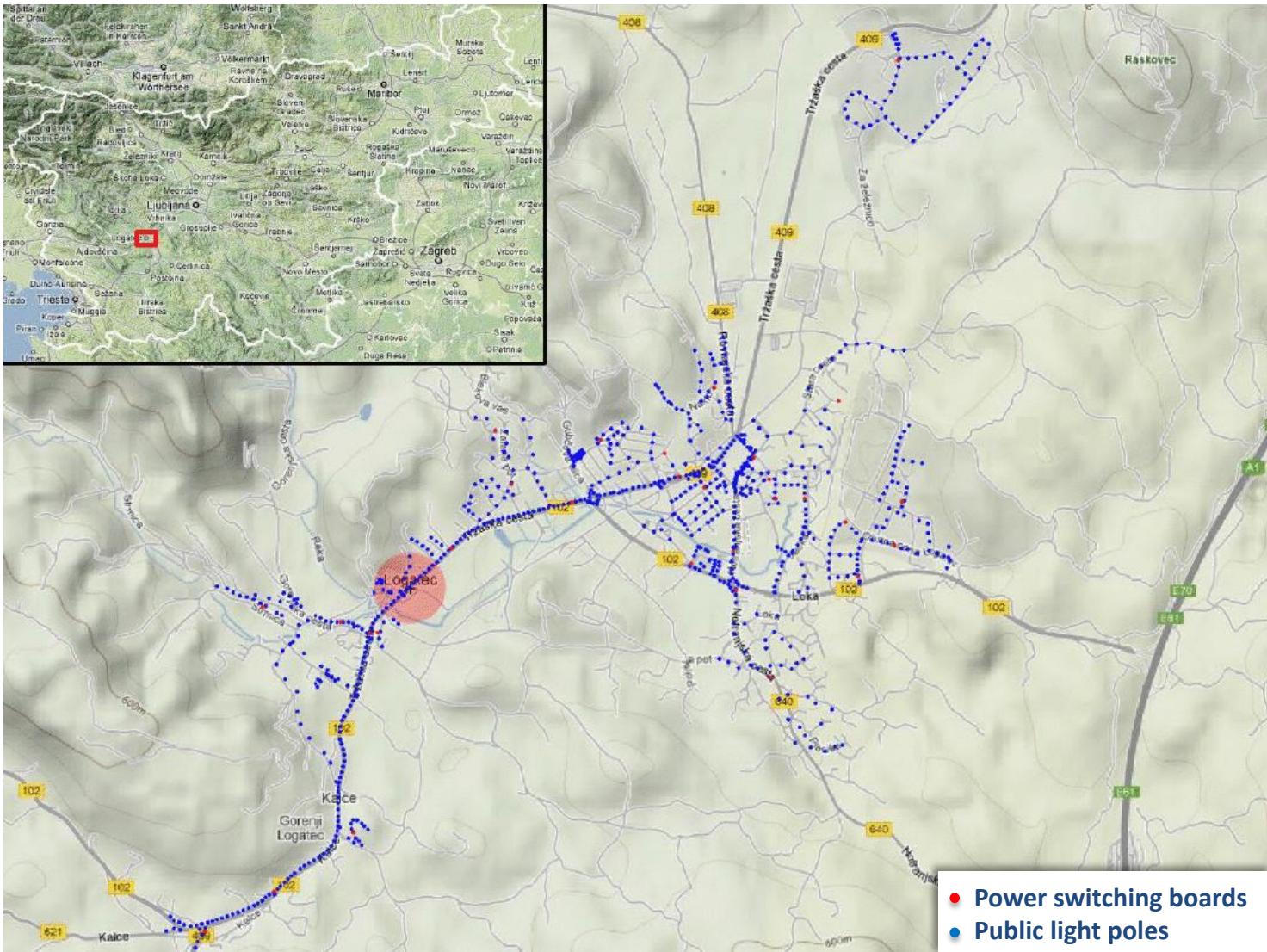
## ■ Communication via Atmel ZigBit modules ATZB-900-B0 on a VESNA radio board

- 802.15.4/ZigBee mesh network @ 868 MHz

## ■ Spectrum sensing with VESNA SNE-ISMTV

- ISM: CC1101 for sub GHz and CC2500 for 2.4 GHz bands
- TV (VHF+UHF): NXP TDA18219HN (42 – 870 MHz)

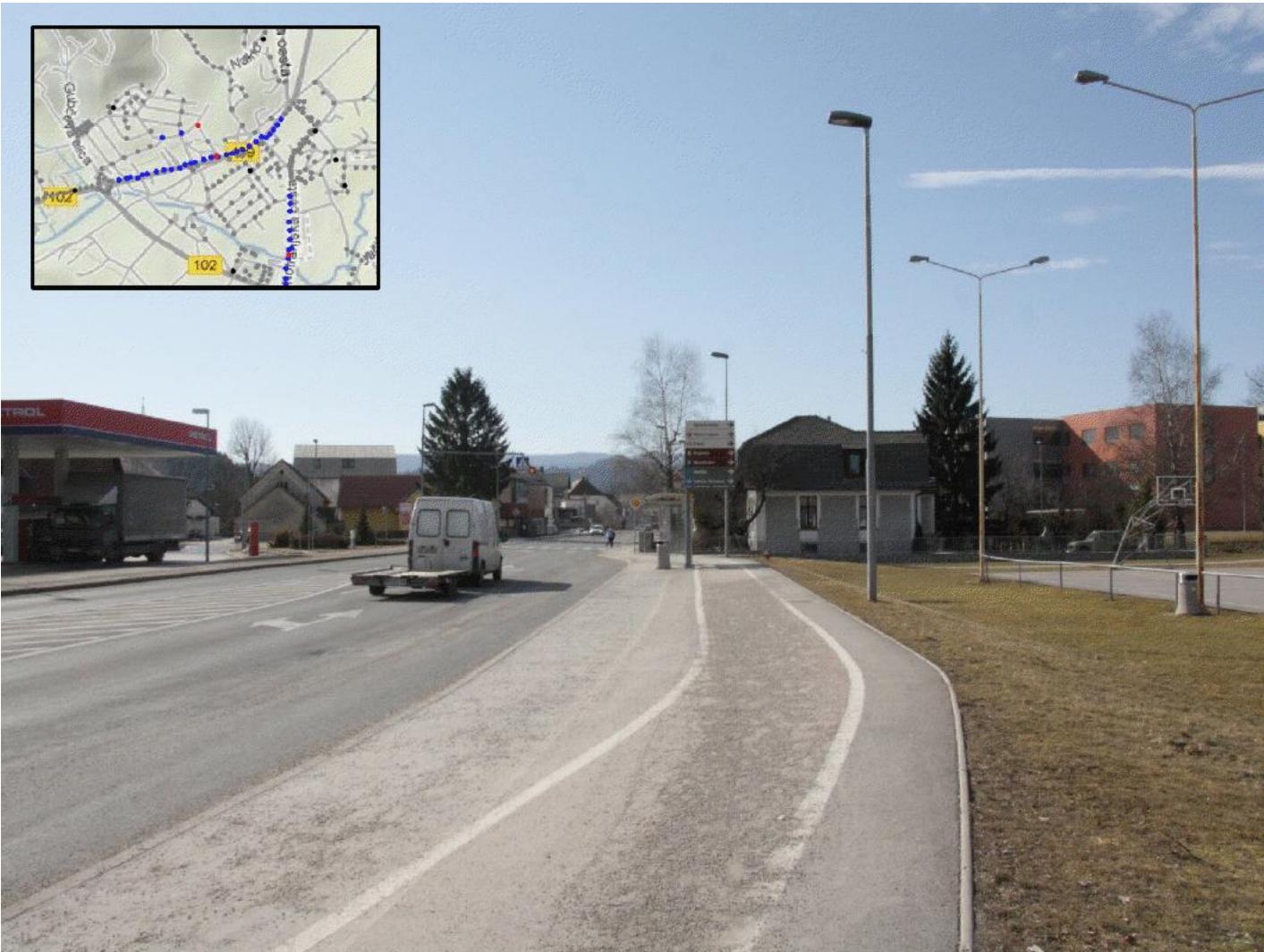
# Logatec on the map



# Logatec industrial zone

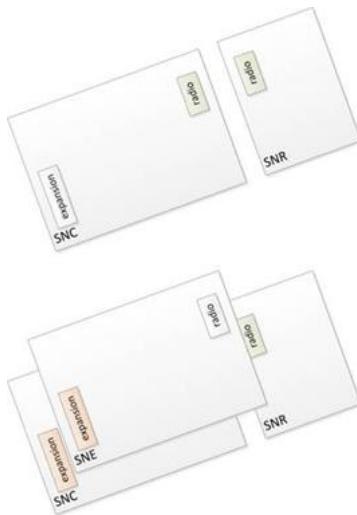


# Logatec central area



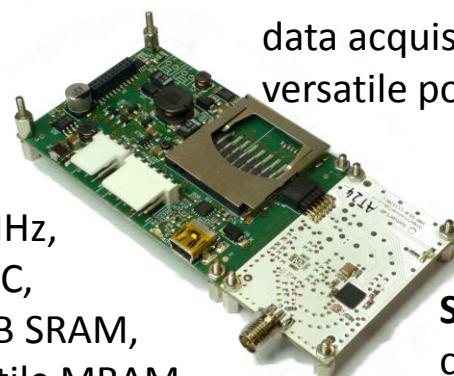
# VESNA sensor nodes

## ■ Modular concept (sandwich like hardware)



**Expansion connector**  
for application  
specific circuits

**ARM Cortex-M3**  
clock up to 72 MHz,  
1 MHz 12-bit ADC,  
1 MB flash, 96 kB SRAM,  
128 kB non-volatile MRAM,  
SD or micro SD card slot  
USB 2.0 and RS-232 interface



**Sensor Node Core (SNC)**  
data acquisition and processing,  
versatile power supply

**Sensor Node Radio (SNR)**  
communication within  
the sensor network

## ■ Modules:

- Core (SNC)
- Radio (SNR)
- Extensions (SNE)



# ISM spectrum sensing

- There is a list of pre-prepared sensing profiles
- One profile is selected and VESNA is configured according to it
- VESNA performs the spectrum sensing according to specifications
- Results are saved locally on the SD card and sent in batches to the server

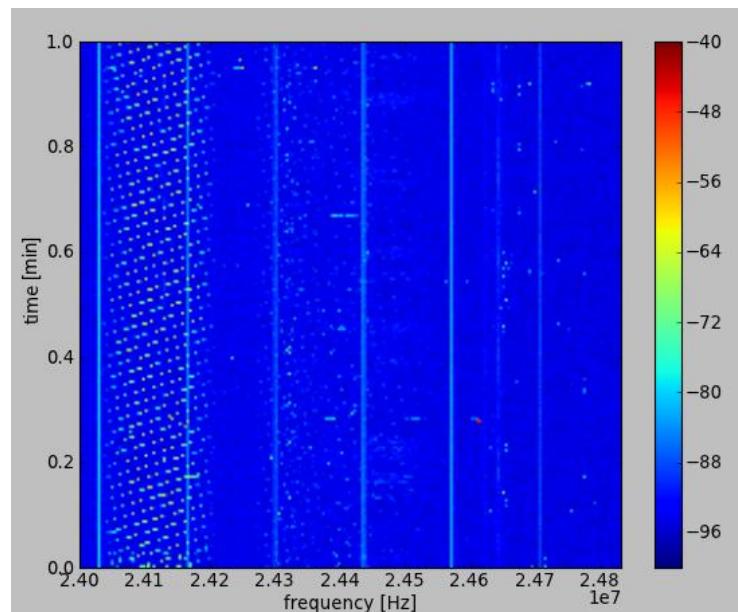


**VESNA-SNC +  
SNR ISM sensing**



**Sensing profile**

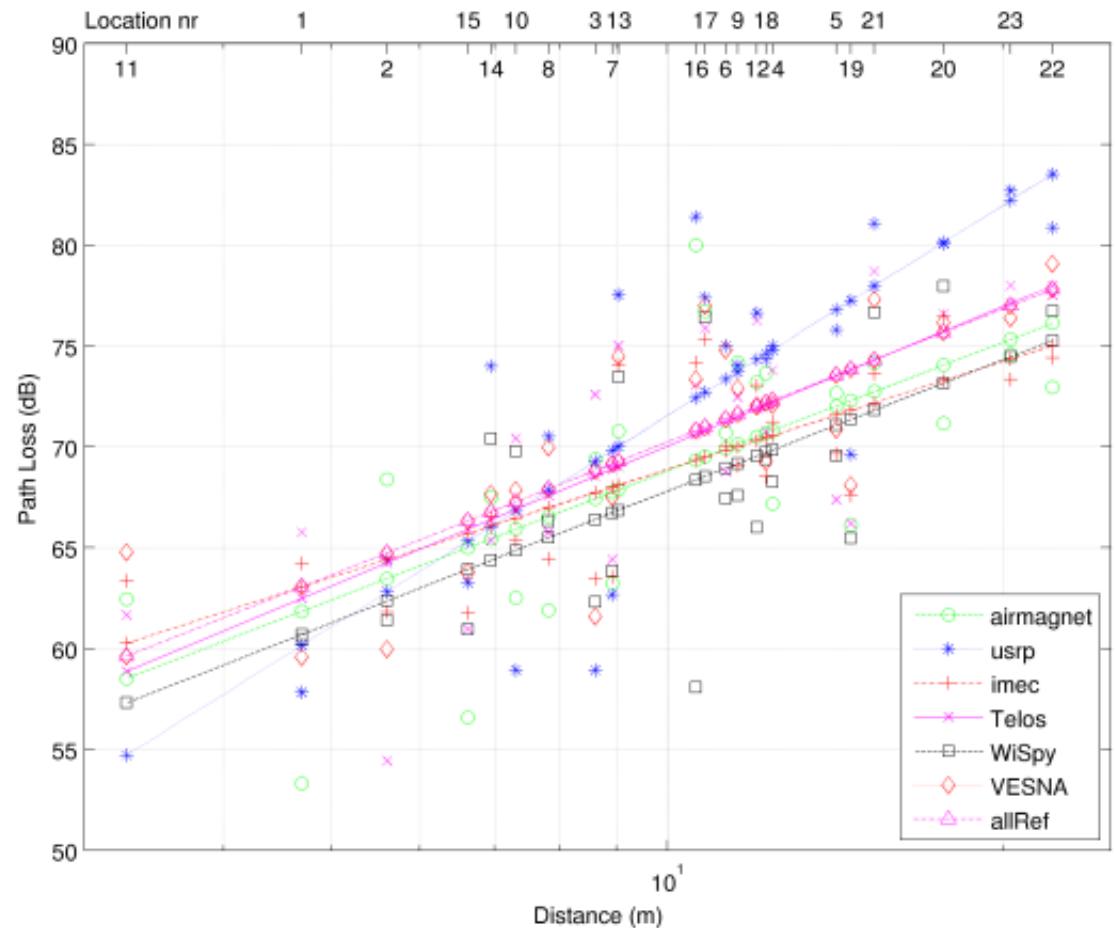
- Frequency bands
- Channel bandwidth
- Frequency list
- Averaging



VESNA spectrum sensing application source is released under GPL.

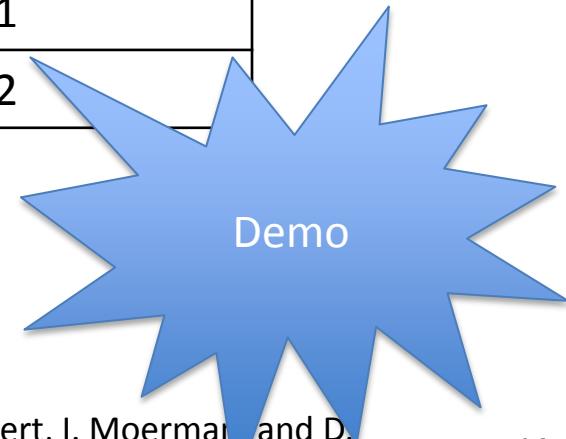
<https://github.com/sensorlab/vesna-spectrum-sensor>

- Markers - the RSSI from a constantly transmitting signal generator as a function of distance.
- The lines - estimated path loss when a very simple propagation model is applied to the measurement results. ( $PL = k_1 + k_2 * \log(D)$ , where  $k_1, k_2$  are parameters of the model)
- The model has been applied to the collected data points; the total of squared error between data points and the lines is minimal.
- It can be seen that the path loss line of VESNA is very close to the reference value's line, and to the "bulk" of the other devices. The errors are quantified in the next slide.



# Mean Squared Error per device

Device Name	MSE Compared to devRef	MSE Compared to allRef
allRef		19.9883
Airmagnet	31.8376	20.7657
USRP	33.9482	28.8005
imec	14.8554	21.5957
Telos	28.5254	20.1824
WiSpy	25.9246	23.2951
VESNA	15.6993	20.4692



# TV spectrum sensing

## NXP TDA18219HN silicon tuner

integrated RF tracking filter,  
image-rejection mixer,  
IF selectivity,  
gain control,  
low-IF output



## Analog devices AD8307

demodulating logarithmic amplifier

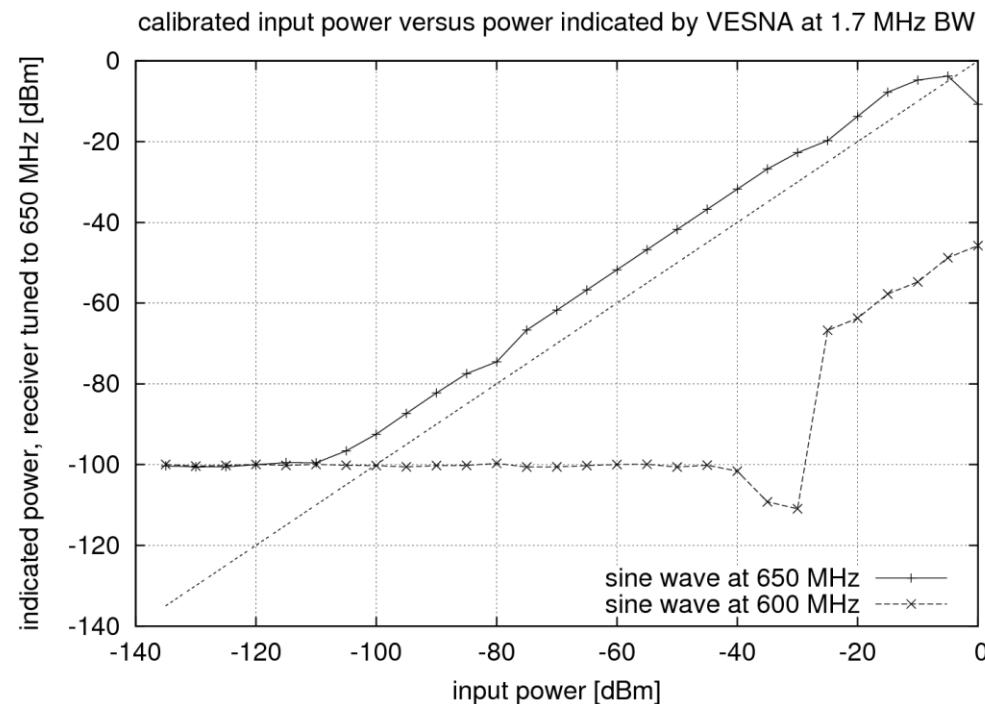
$\pm 1$  dB linearity

92 dB dynamic range

## VESNA SNE-CREWTV

- UHF spectrum sensing expansion for CREW

42 – 870 MHz RF input  
1.7, 6, 7, 8, 10 MHz channel  
5.9 dB noise figure



[http://www.tablix.org/~avian/blog/archives/2012/04/spectrum\\_sensing\\_in\\_a\\_nutshell/](http://www.tablix.org/~avian/blog/archives/2012/04/spectrum_sensing_in_a_nutshell/)

# TV spectrum sensing

- There is a list of pre-prepared sensing profiles
- One profile is selected and VESNA is configured according to it
- VESNA performs the spectrum sensing according to specifications
- Results are saved locally on the SD card and sent in batches to the server

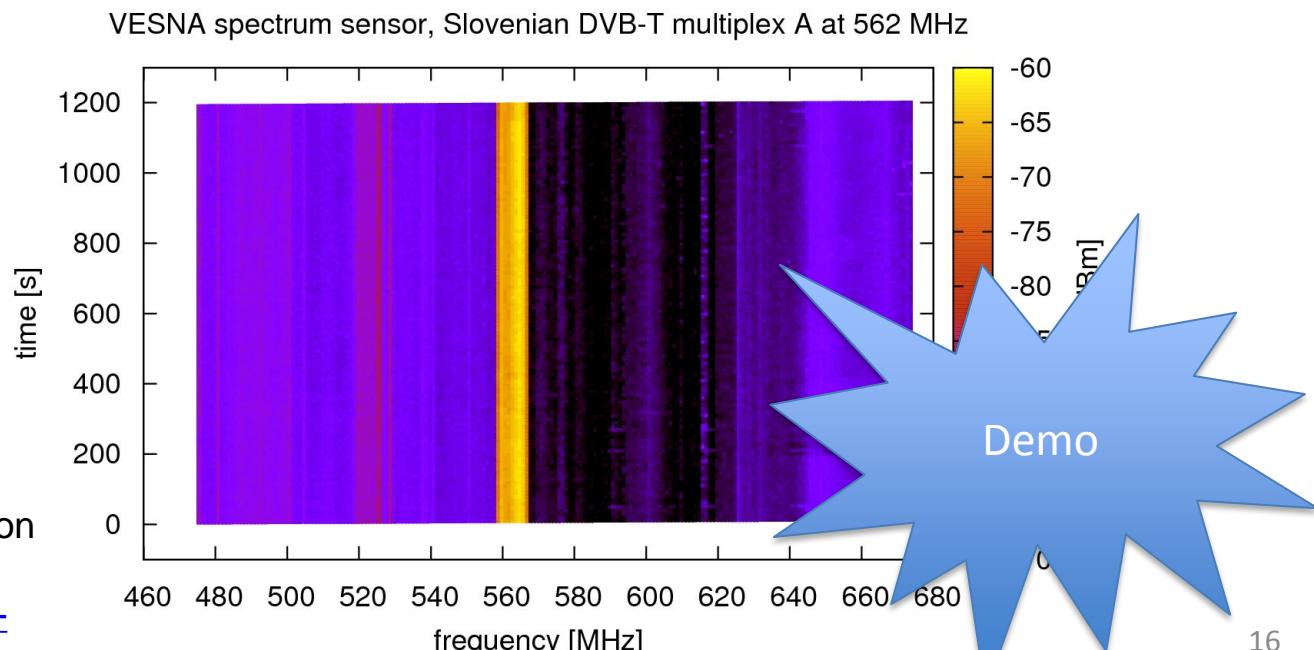


**VESNA-SNC + SNR  
Communication +  
SNE-CREWTV**

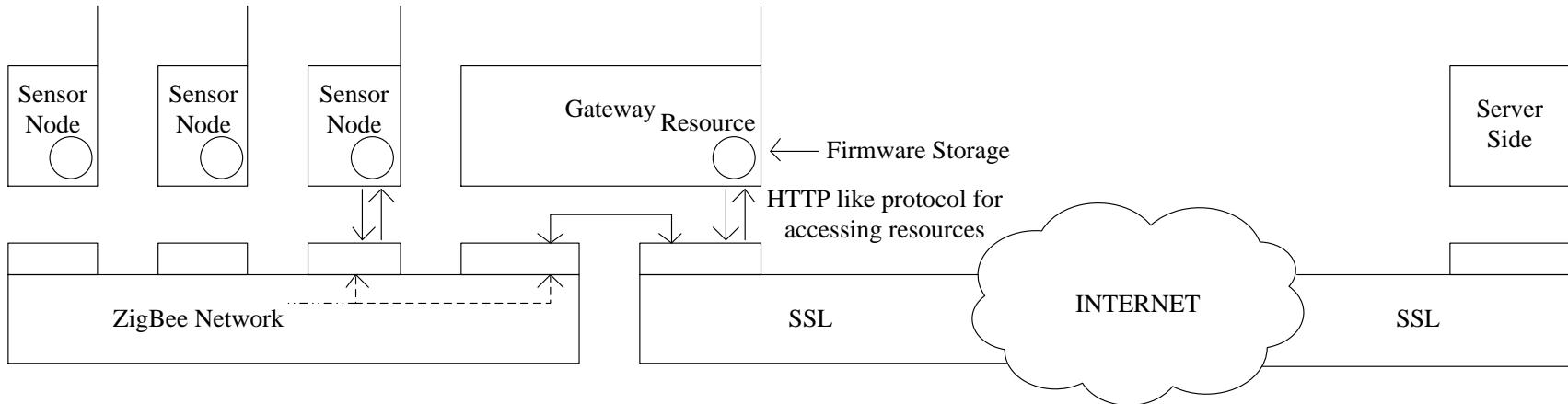


## Sensing profile

- Frequency bands
  - Channel bandwidth
  - Frequency list
  - Averaging



VESNA spectrum sensing application source is released under GPL.  
<https://github.com/sensorlab/vesna-spectrum-sensor>



- The server sends the firmware to the gateway over SSL using a custom protocol inspired by HTTP
- The gateway implements a simple which can handle GET and POST requests
- The gateway stores the firmware in chunks of 512 bytes image on the SD card
- After the firmware transfer, the CRC of the image is checked
- A message is sent from the server to the bootloader on the gateway telling it that next time it restarts, it should boot from the part of the SD card where the new image was stored
- Then a message for restart is sent, on restart the new image will be running
- If error on restart it boots from the first slot of the SD card reserved for the safe mode of the firmware
- Reprogramming nodes done via multicast through the coordinator in similar way <sup>17</sup>

VESNA Remote Debugger

```
ADDRESS:80243F5
Chunk 260
OK
##Firmware successfully uploaded.
<<get prog/missingChunks?slotId=10&maxSize=512

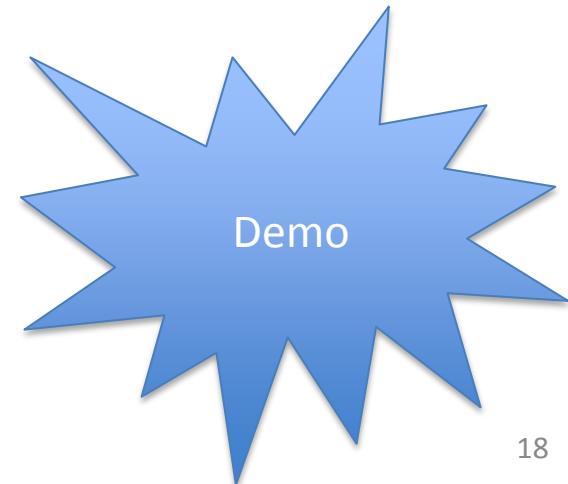
BlockNr=
MissingCount= 0

OK
<<POST prog/nextFirmwareCrc
<<length=10
<<2595092152
<<crc=0
ADDRESS:8024A29
CRC ok

OK
<<POST prog/setupBootloaderForReprogram
<<length=1
<<3
<<crc=0
ADDRESS:8024B7D
Bootloader ready

OK
<<post prog/doRestart
<<length=1
<<1
<<crc=0
◆VSC Initialized
Debug port Open
<<GET description
*****
*****VESNA Firmware Version : 1.1*****
*****
LED light blinking with the delay 100ms
*****
GET description| Send
/dev/ttyUSB0 Close Port
Set Baud Clear Terminal
Firmware Location: /home/matevz/Firmware/blink_100ms.bin Browse
Firmware Size In Bytes: 133144
Firmware CRC: 2595092152
URI: firmware Upload Firmware
```

- Send firmware
- On success, check CRC
- Specify new boot slot
- Invoke restart
- Inquire about new firmware



■ Needed for selecting the locations for the sensor nodes

■ The aim is to determine sites with low packet loss

■ Key factor in

- reconfiguration/programming
- measurement collection

- obrtnaona\_coordinator
- zapolje\_coordinator
- logatec\_coordinator
- logatec\_location6
 

Link to coordinator: RSSI [dBm]: max -70, min -92, avg -77 LQI: max 247, min 236, avg 247 RTT [ms]: max 205, min 103, avg 110 packet loss: 5 %
- logatec\_location7
 

Link to coordinator: RSSI [dBm]: max -73, min -87, avg -74 LQI: max 247, min 247, avg 247 RTT [ms]: max 117, min 103, avg 109 packet loss: 0 %
- logatec\_location4
 

Link to coordinator: RSSI [dBm]: max -61, min -82, avg -72 LQI: max 247, min 247, avg 247 RTT [ms]: max 118, min 103, avg 109 packet loss: 0 %
- logatec\_location5
 

Link to coordinator: RSSI [dBm]: max -67, min -87, avg -74 LQI: max 247, min 247, avg 247 RTT [ms]: max 123, min 103, avg 110 packet loss: 1 %
- logatec\_location2
 

Link to coordinator: RSSI [dBm]: max -45, min -73, avg -58 LQI: max 247, min 247, avg 247 RTT [ms]: max 127, min 103, avg 110 packet loss: 0 %
- logatec\_location3
 

Link to coordinator: RSSI [dBm]: max -52, min -81, avg -67 LQI: max 247, min 247, avg 247 RTT [ms]: max 193, min 104, avg 110 packet loss: 0 %
- logatec\_location1
 

Link to coordinator: RSSI [dBm]: max -43, min -49, avg -47 LQI: max 247, min 247, avg 247 RTT [ms]: max 115, min 103, avg 109 packet loss: 0 %
- logatec\_location16
 

Link to coordinator: RSSI [dBm]: max -70, min -89, avg -74 LQI: max 247, min 246, avg 247 RTT [ms]: max 119, min 103, avg 109 packet loss: 0 %
- logatec\_location8
 

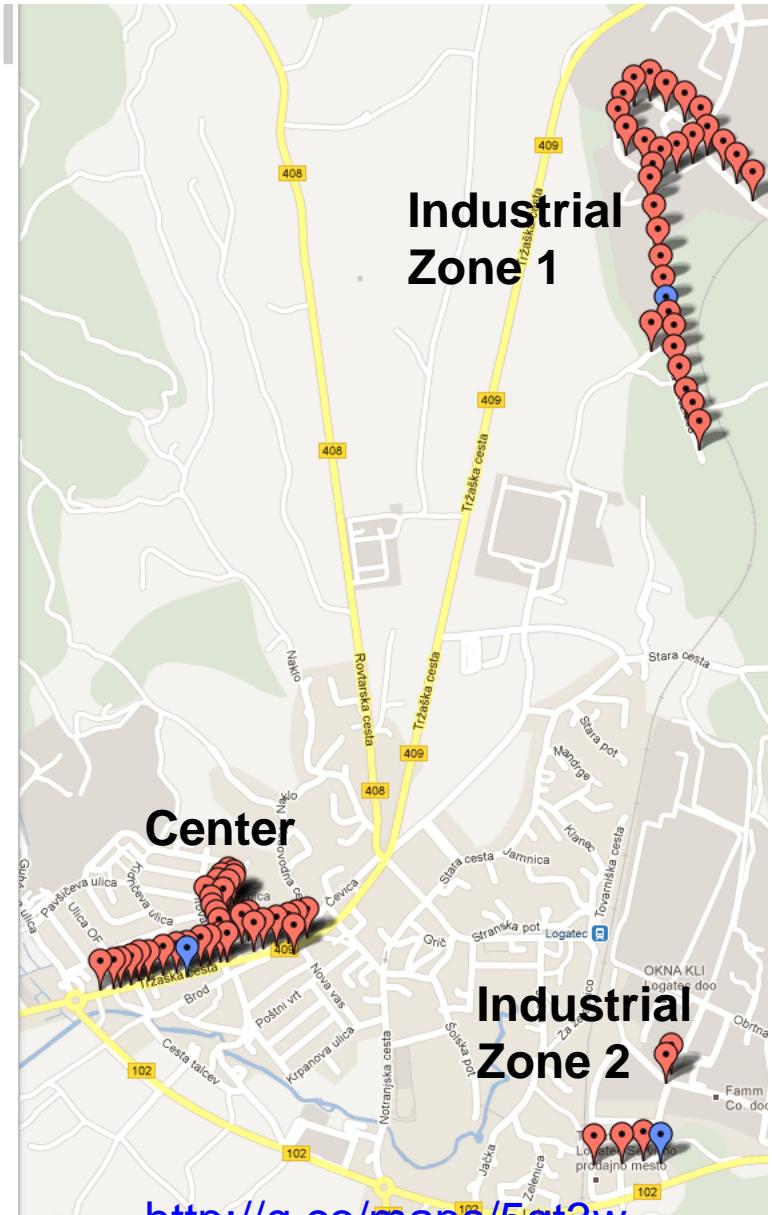
Link to coordinator: RSSI [dBm]: max -73, min -85, avg -74 LQI: max 247, min 247, avg 247 RTT [ms]: max 117, min 103, avg 108 packet loss: 0 %
- logatec\_location9
 

Link to coordinator: RSSI [dBm]: max -73, min -91, avg -83 LQI: max 247, min 242, avg 247 RTT [ms]: max 140, min 103, avg 111 packet loss: 11 %
- obrtnaona\_location2
 

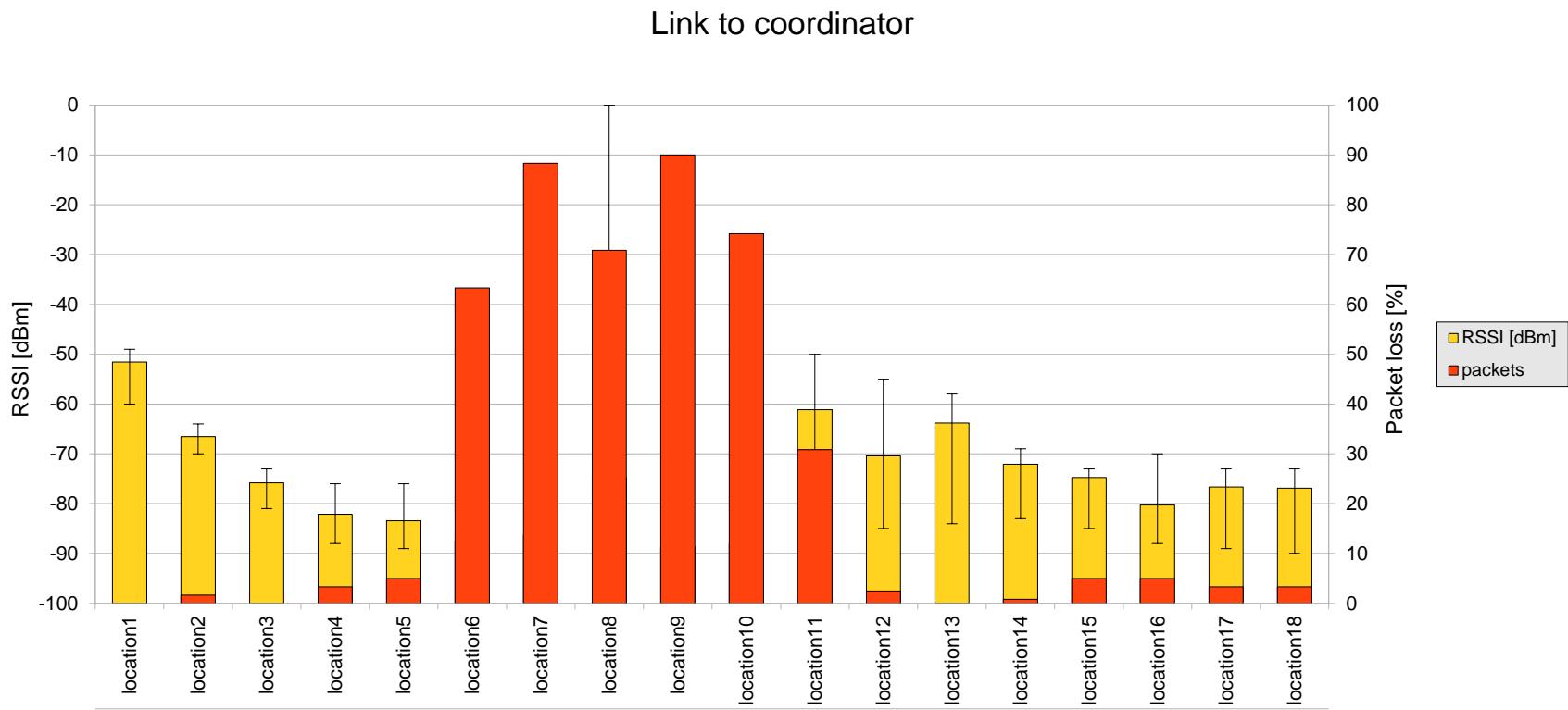
Link to coordinator: RSSI [dBm]: max -73, min -89, avg -78 LQI: max 247, min 238, avg 247 RTT [ms]: max 181, min 103, avg 112 packet loss: 8 %
- obrtnaona\_location5
 

Link to coordinator: RSSI [dBm]: max -67, min -85, avg -78 LQI: max 252, min 247, avg 249 RTT [ms]: max 116, min 104, avg 110 packet loss: 13 %
- logatec\_location34
 

Link to location25: RSSI [dBm]: max -58, min -80, avg -64 LQI: max

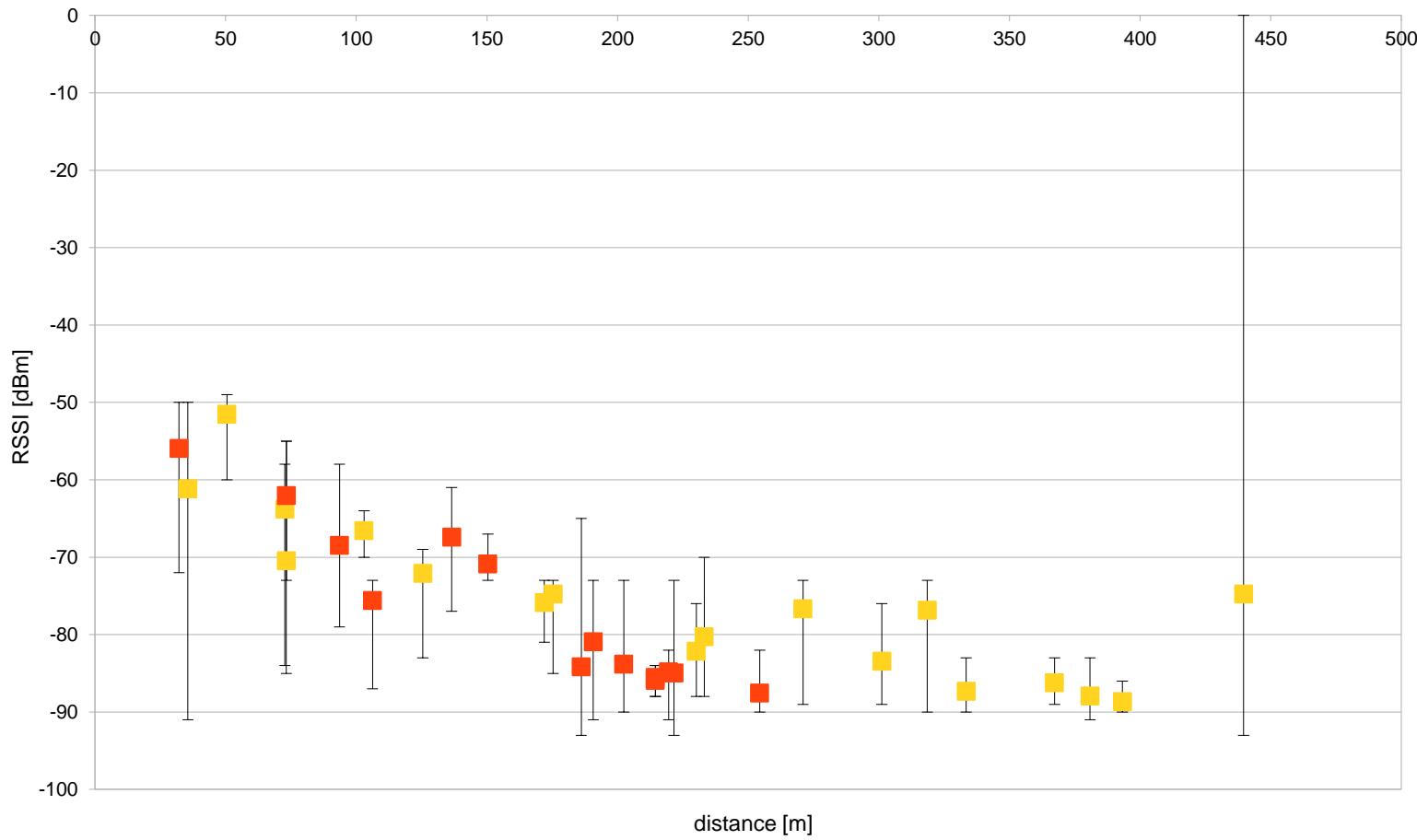


# The link quality to the coordinator



We consider 10% packet loss a good link.

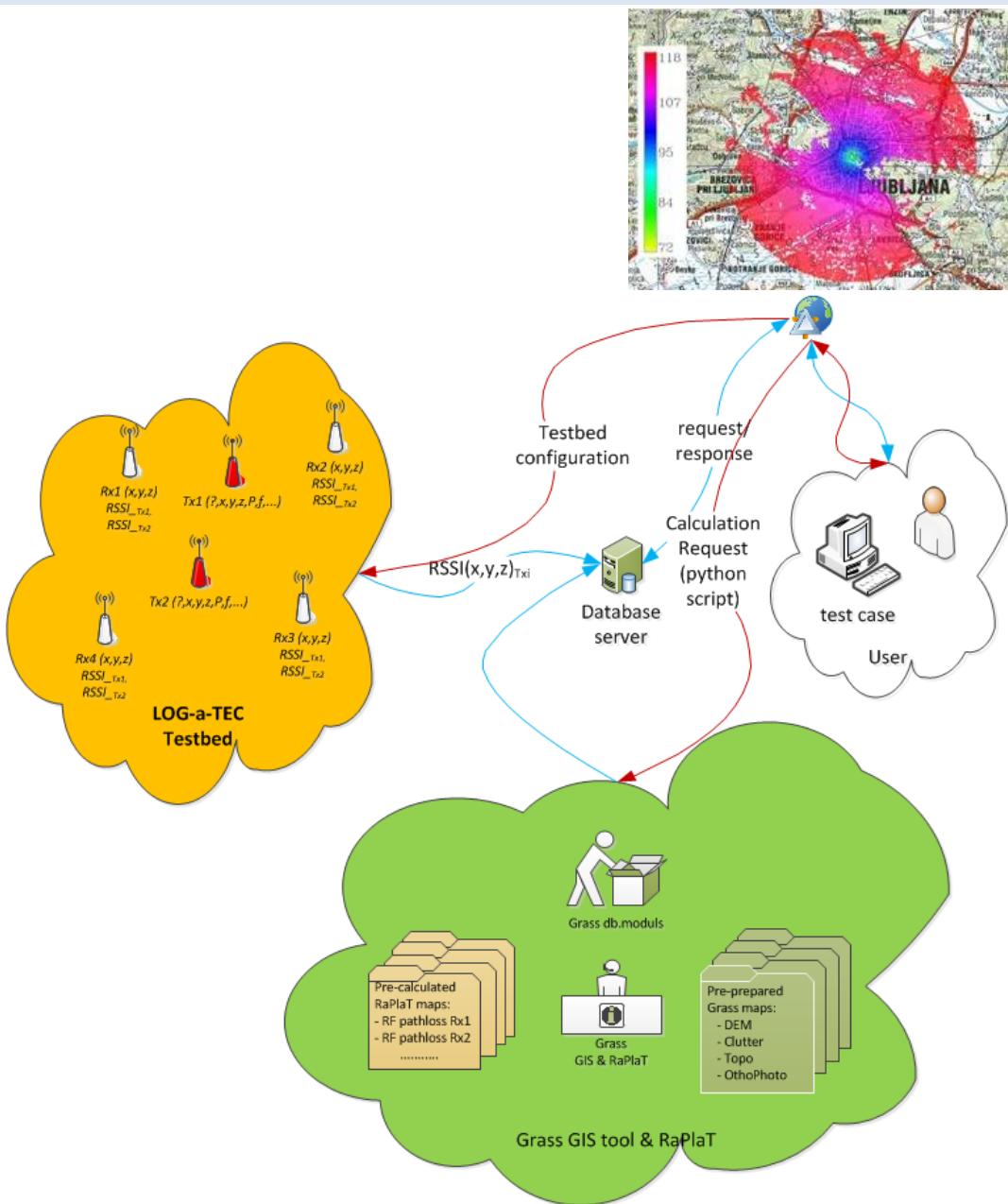
# The link quality to the coordinator



ATZB-900-B0: „100 kbps, outdoor range 6 km“

# Radio planning tool

- for storing GIS data
- as a tool for conversion of GIS data to the data form appropriate for visualization via the web interface
- for calculating radio environmental maps (REM) and preparation for their visualization
- in the **inverse channel modeling for interference region determination and collaborative hidden node detection.**



The tool is freely available at:

<http://www-e6.ijs.si/en/software/grass-raplat>

# CREW Open Call 2 - Portal

Portal containing all relevant information and functionality for experimenters  
(currently just initial mock-up)



VESNA (code)

Location:

- Logatec, Slovenia, Europe
- GPS coordinates

Configuration:

[SNCv1.1](#)

[SNRv2.1 \(TI24 CC2500\)](#)

[SNE-CREW](#)

Firmware:

SLLibv3.45

SLLibv3.45

Contiki2.5 RIME

Contiki2.5 uIPv6

Contiki2.5 6LowPAN

Parameters:

Frequency band:  ·  MHz

Sensing band:  MHz

10

10

20

30

50

Reconfigure

You will be able to order:

## ■ Sensing

- Have nodes at locations A, B, C, ... perform energy detection from time T1 to time T2 over frequencies between F1 and F2, using B\_res resolution bandwidth and sweep time T\_sweep.
- The result is a collection of power matrices, as specified in the CREW common data format (time vs. frequency vs. received signal power).
- There will be some **fixed combinations of frequency spans, resolution bandwidths and sweep times, as defined by our hardware in the "sensing profiles" as could be seen in the demos.**

## ■ Transmission

- transmit signal (specify characteristics) on frequency F (inside the ISM bands).

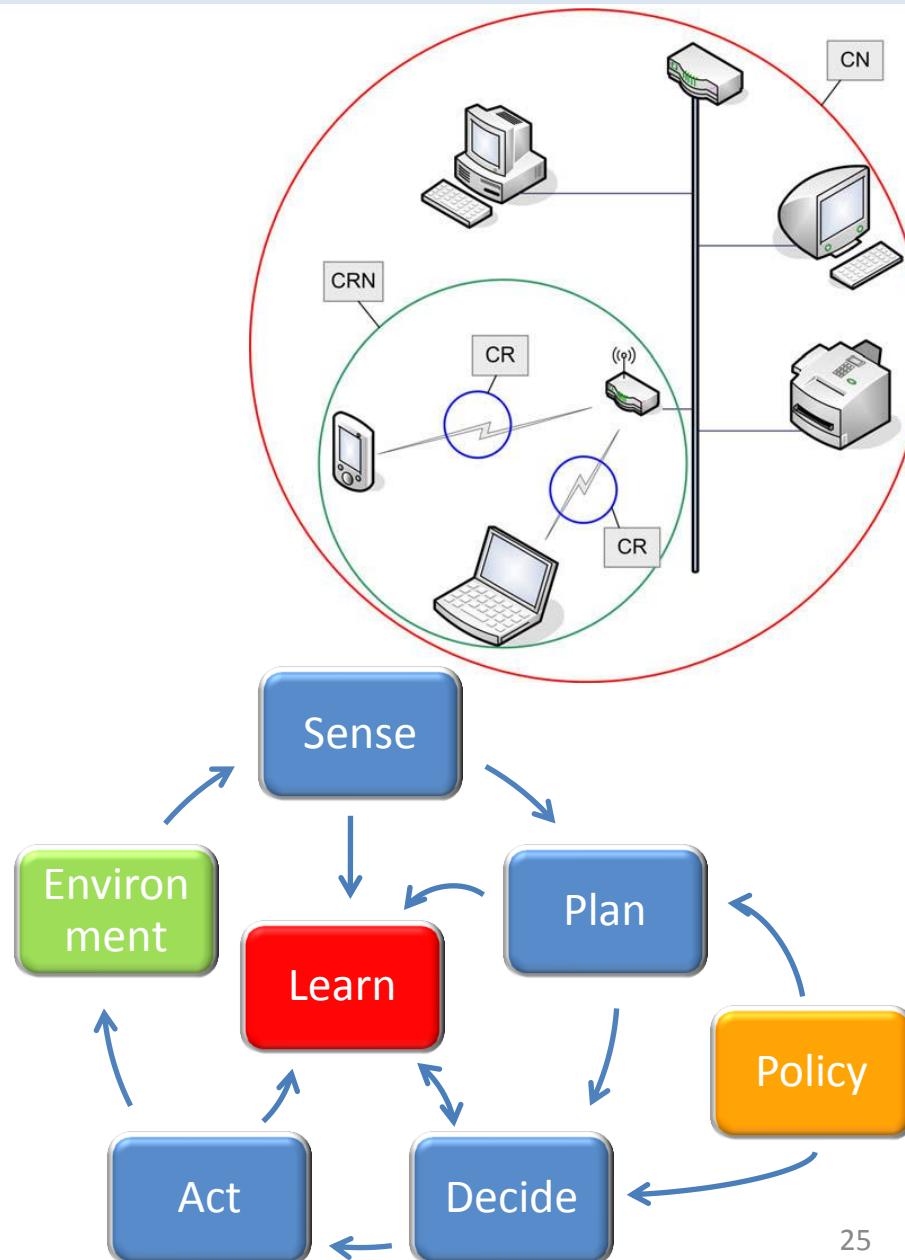
# Cognitive networking

## ■ Scope

- CR – wireless link
- CRN – AP to wireless terminals
- CN – wired + wireless

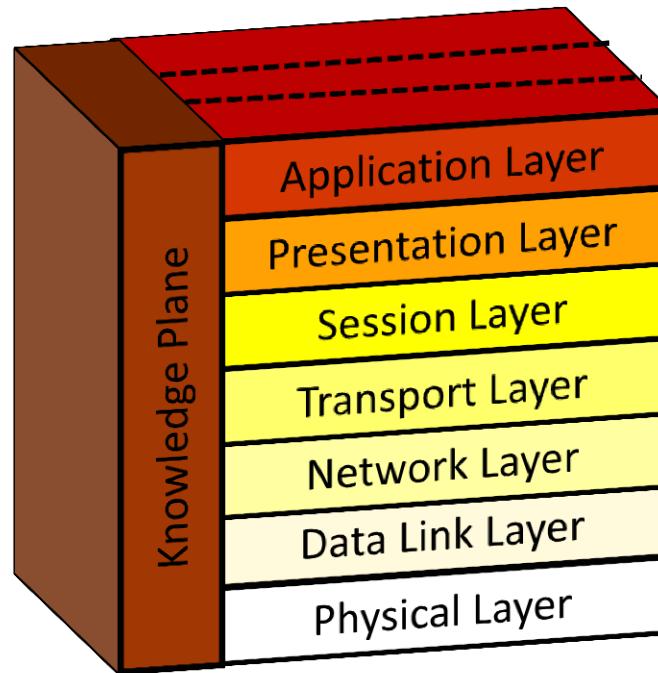
## ■ CN elements

- A representation of relevant knowledge about the scope (device, homogenous network, heterogeneous network, etc.).
- A cognition loop which uses AI techniques inside its states (learning techniques, decision making techniques, etc.).



# Cognitive networking

- Possible implementation: the Knowledge Plane (can be seen as smarter cross layer design)

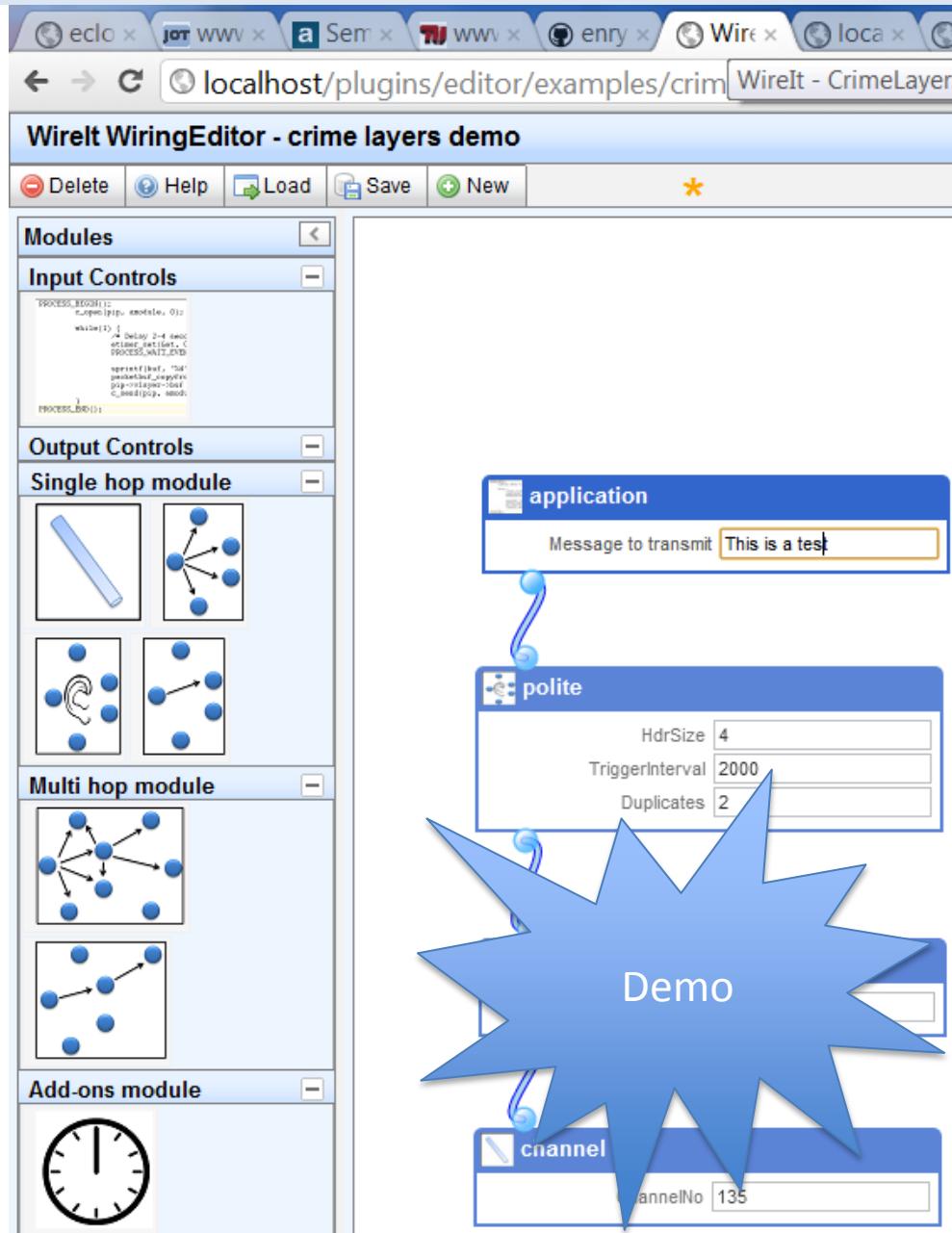


D.D. Clark, C. Partridge, J.C. Ramming, J.T. Wroclawski, A knowledge plane for the internet, in: Proceedings of the SIGCOMM 2003, Karlsruhe, Germany, August 25–29, 2003.

# Cognitive networking

- Remote composition, reconfiguration and reprogramming of protocol stacks for cognitive networking research.

- Contiki OS with Configurable RIME (C-RIME) stack
- Custom reprogramming protocol
- Sesame store for storing consistency rules
- Java server side (Jetty + VESNA server) and WireIt (Javascript/HTML5) user interface



- LOG-a-TEC/JSI testbeds
- VESNA sensor nodes
- ISM spectrum sensing
- TV spectrum sensing
- Testbed reconfiguration
- Radio planning
  
- CREW Open Call 2
  
- Cognitive networking

Acknowledgements: all colleagues from SensorLab, especially Tomaz x 2 and Zoli who contributed slides.

# Questions / Discussion



<http://www.crew-project.eu/>

<http://sensorlab.ijs.si/>

[carolina.fortuna@ijs.si](mailto:carolina.fortuna@ijs.si), [matevz.vucnik@ijs.si](mailto:matevz.vucnik@ijs.si)