

# 5G base station power consumption I want







#### **Overview**

In this post, we explore the energy saving features of 5G New Radio and how this enables operators to build denser networks, meet performance demands and maintain low 5G energy consumption.

How much power does a 5G station use?

The power consumption of a single 5G station is 2.5 to 3.5 times higher than that of a single 4G station. The main factor behind this increase in 5G power consumption is the high power usage of the active antenna unit (AAU). Under a full workload, a single station uses nearly 3700W.

Why does 5G use more power than 4G?

The data here all comes from operators on the front lines, and we can draw the following valuable conclusions: The power consumption of a single 5G station is 2.5 to 3.5 times higher than that of a single 4G station. The main factor behind this increase in 5G power consumption is the high power usage of the active antenna unit (AAU).

What is a 5G base station?

A 5G base station is mainly composed of the baseband unit (BBU) and the AAU — in 4G terms, the AAU is the remote radio unit (RRU) plus antenna. The role of the BBU is to handle baseband digital signal processing, while the AAU converts the baseband digital signal into an analog signal, and then modulates it into a high-frequency radio signal.

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.

Does 5G New Radio save energy?



Emerging use cases and devices demand higher capacity from today's mobile networks, leading to increasingly dense network deployments. In this post, we explore the energy saving features of 5G New Radio and how this enables operators to build denser networks, meet performance demands and maintain low 5G energy consumption.

What should be considered in a 5G network?

The further completion of the map of power models (Fig. 2) and systematization of their features as well as the comparison is also part of the future work. Lastly, the aspects of computing (network function virtualization) and functional split options of the RAN need to be considered for 5G networks as well.



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#### Comparison of Power Consumption Models for 5G Cellular Network Base

Power consumption models for base stations are briefly discussed as part of the development of a model for life cycle assessment. An overview of





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