

METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR SELECTING A BASE STATION TRANSCIVER SYSTEM BASED ON SERVICE COMMUNICATION TYPE

ABSTRACT

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Methods and apparatus for selecting a base station transceiver system for communication with a Third Generation (3G) (or better) mobile station are described. In one illustrative example, one or more base station transceiver systems are identified for communication with the mobile station through a scanning process. A first base station transceiver system is identified as providing a Third Generation (3G) communication service or better, whereas a second base station transceiver system is identified as failing to provide the 3G or better communication service (e.g. it may provide a Second Generation (2G) communication service). The first system is selected for communication over the second system based at least in part on identifying that the second system fails to provide the 3G or better communication service. For example, the first system may be chosen over the second system if the first system has a signal quality that is better than a minimum threshold, even if its signal quality is worse than that of the second system. Advantageously, even if an available 2G system has a better signal quality, preference for an adequate 3G or better system is given to ensure that a preferred data service is made available to the mobile station.

(Fig. 3)