CLAIMS

1. A method for a mobile station, comprising:

receiving an assignment of a first set of timeslots for at least one of uplink or downlink communications;

after receiving the assignment of the first set of timeslots, reducing a number of timeslots monitored by the mobile state to a reduced set of timeslots having a number of timeslots less than a number of timeslots to be monitored in accordance with the assignment;

receiving a second assignment of a second set of timeslots for at least one of uplink or downlink communications;

If the second assignment assigns a number of timeslots that is less than the number of timeslots in the first set of timeslots, continuing to monitor the reduced set of timeslots; and

If the second assignment assigns a number of timeslots that is greater than the number of timeslots in the first set of timeslots, monitoring a set of timeslots in accordance with the second assignment.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein a reduced transmission time interval protocol is utilized by the mobile state and the base station.

3. The method of claim 1, including, after reducing a number of timeslots monitored by the mobile station to a reduced set of timeslots, transmitting a control block identifying one or more timeslots being monitored by the mobile station.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein receiving an assignment of at least one of the first set of timeslots and second set of timeslots includes receiving an assignment message from the base station.

5. The method of claim 1, including reducing a number of timeslots monitored by the mobile station to less than the first set of timeslots when at least one of uplink communications and downlink communications matches a usage metric.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein the usage metric is received at least one of in an assignment message and via packet data protocol (PDP) context establishment procedures.

7. A method for coordinating communications between a mobile station and a base station, comprising:

receiving an assignment of a first set of timeslots for at least one of uplink and downlink communications between the mobile station and the base station;

after receiving the assignment of the first set of timeslots, reducing a number of timeslots monitored by the mobile station to a reduced set of timeslots; receiving a second assignment of a second set of timeslots for at least one of uplink and downlink communications between the mobile station and the base station;

when the second assignment message matches a first criteria, continuing to monitor the reduced set of timeslots; and

when the second assignment message matches a second criteria, monitoring a set of timeslots identified in the second assignment message.

8. A method for coordinating communications between a mobile station and a base station, comprising:

transmitting an assignment of a first set of timeslots for at least one of uplink and downlink communications;

after transmitting the assignment of the first set of timeslots, determining that the mobile station has reduced a number of timeslots monitored by the mobile station to a reduced set of timeslots;

transmitting a second assignment of a second set of timeslots for at least one of uplink and downlink communications:

if the second assignment message allocates a number of timeslots that is less than or equal to the number of timeslots in the reduced set of timeslots, determining that the mobile station is monitoring the reduced set of timeslots; and

if the second assignment message allocates a number of timeslots that is greater than the number of timeslots in the reduced set of timeslots, determining that the mobile station is monitoring a set of timeslots in accordance with the second assignment message.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein a reduced transmission time interval protocol is utilized by the mobile station and the base station.

10. The method of claim 8, including, receiving a control block from the mobile station identifying one or more timeslots being monitored by the mobile station.

11. The method of claim 8, wherein transmitting an assignment of at least one of the first set of timeslots and the second set of timeslots includes transmitting an assignment message to the mobile station.

12. The method of claim 8, including determining that the mobile station has reduced a number of timeslots monitored by the mobile station to a reduced set of timeslots when at least one of uplink communications and downlink communications reaches a usage metric.

13. A mobile station for use with a communications network including a base station, comprising:

a processor configured to:

receive an assignment of a first set of timeslots for at least one of uplink or downlink communications;

after receiving the assignment of the first set of timeslots, reduce a number of timeslots monitored by the mobile state to a reduced set of timeslots_having a number of timeslots less than a number of timeslots to be monitored in accordance with the assignment;

receive a second assignment of a second set of timeslots for at least one of uplink or downlink communications;

If the second assignment assigns a number of timeslots that is less than the number of timeslots in the first set of timeslots, continue to monitor the reduced set of timeslots; and

If the second assignment assigns a number of timeslots that is greater than the number of timeslots in the first set of timeslots, monitor a set of timeslots in accordance with the second assignment.

14. A mobile station for use with a communications network including a base station, comprising:

a processor configured to:

receive an assignment of a first set of timeslots for at least one of uplink and downlink communications between the mobile station and the base station;

after receiving the assignment of the first set of timeslots, reduce a number of timeslots monitored by the mobile station to a reduced set of timeslots; receive a second assignment of a second set of timeslots for at least one of uplink and downlink communications between the mobile station and the base station;

when the second assignment message matches a first criteria, continue to monitor the reduced set of timeslots; and

when the second assignment message matches a second criteria, monitor a set of timeslots identified in the second assignment message.

15. A base station for use with a communications network including a mobile station comprising:

a processor configured to:

transmit an assignment of a first set of timeslots for at least one of uplink and downlink communications between the mobile station and the base station;

after transmitting the assignment of the first set of timeslots, determine that the mobile station has reduced a number of timeslots monitored by the mobile station to a reduced set of timeslots;

transmit a second assignment of a second set of timeslots for at least one of uplink and downlink communications between the mobile station and the base station:

if the second assignment message allocates a number of timeslots that is less than or equal to the number of timeslots in the reduced set of timeslots, determine that the mobile station is monitoring the reduced set of timeslots; and

if the second assignment message allocates a number of timeslots that is greater than the number of timeslots in the reduced set of timeslots, determine that the mobile station is monitoring a set of timeslots in accordance with the second assignment message.

CLAIMS

1. A method for a mobile station, comprising:

receiving an assignment of a first set of timeslots for at least one of uplink or downlink communications;

after receiving the assignment of the first set of timeslots, reducing a number of timeslots monitored by the mobile station to a reduced set of timeslots having a number of timeslots less than a number of timeslots to be monitored in accordance with the assignment;

receiving a second assignment of a second set of timeslots for at least one of uplink or downlink communications;

if the second assignment assigns a number of timeslots that is less than the number of timeslots in the first set of timeslots, continuing to monitor the reduced set of timeslots; and

if the second assignment assigns a number of timeslots that is greater than the number of timeslots in the first set of timeslots, monitoring a set of timeslots in accordance with the second assignment.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein a reduced transmission time interval protocol is utilized by the mobile station.

3. The method of claim 1, including, after reducing a number of timeslots monitored by the mobile station to a reduced set of timeslots, transmitting a control block identifying one or more timeslots being monitored by the mobile station.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein receiving an assignment of at least one of the first set of timeslots and second set of timeslots includes receiving an assignment message from a base station.

5. The method of claim 1, including reducing a number of timeslots monitored by the mobile station to less than the first set of timeslots when at least one of uplink communications and downlink communications matches a usage metric.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein the usage metric is received at least one of in an assignment message and via packet data protocol (PDP) context establishment procedures.

7. A method for coordinating communications between a mobile station and a base station, comprising:

transmitting an assignment of a first set of timeslots for at least one of uplink and downlink communications;

after transmitting the assignment of the first set of timeslots, determining that the mobile station has reduced a number of timeslots monitored by the mobile station to a reduced set of timeslots;

transmitting a second assignment of a second set of timeslots for at least one of uplink and downlink communications;

if the second assignment message allocates a number of timeslots that is less than or equal to the number of timeslots in the reduced set of timeslots, determining that the mobile station is monitoring the reduced set of timeslots; and

if the second assignment message allocates a number of timeslots that is greater than the number of timeslots in the reduced set of timeslots, determining that the mobile station is monitoring a set of timeslots in accordance with the second assignment message.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein a reduced transmission time interval protocol is utilized by the mobile station and the base station.

9. The method of claim 7, including, receiving a control block from the mobile station identifying one or more timeslots being monitored by the mobile station.

10. The method of claim 7, wherein transmitting an assignment of at least one of the first set of timeslots and the second set of timeslots includes transmitting an assignment message to the mobile station.

11. The method of claim 7, including determining that the mobile station has reduced a number of timeslots monitored by the mobile station to a reduced set of timeslots when at least one of uplink communications and downlink communications reaches a usage metric.

12. A mobile station for use with a communications network including a base station, comprising:

a processor configured to:

receive an assignment of a first set of timeslots for at least one of uplink or downlink communications;

after receiving the assignment of the first set of timeslots, reduce a number of timeslots monitored by the mobile station to a reduced set of timeslots having a number of timeslots less than a number of timeslots to be monitored in accordance with the assignment;

receive a second assignment of a second set of timeslots for at least one of uplink or downlink communications;

if the second assignment assigns a number of timeslots that is less than the number of timeslots in the first set of timeslots, continue to monitor the reduced set of timeslots; and

if the second assignment assigns a number of timeslots that is greater than the number of timeslots in the first set of timeslots, monitor a set of timeslots in accordance with the second assignment.

13. A base station for use with a communications network including a mobile station comprising:

a processor configured to:

transmit an assignment of a first set of timeslots for at least one of uplink or downlink communications;

after transmitting the assignment of the first set of timeslots, determine that the mobile station has reduced a number of timeslots monitored by the mobile station to a reduced set of timeslots having a number of timeslots less than a number of timeslots to be monitored in accordance with the assignment;

transmit a second assignment of a second set of timeslots for at least one of uplink or downlink communications;

if the second assignment allocates a number of timeslots that is less than the number of timeslots in the reduced set of timeslots, determine that the mobile station is monitoring the reduced set of timeslots; and

if the second assignment allocates a number of timeslots that is greater than the number of timeslots in the reduced set of timeslots, determine that the mobile station is monitoring a set of timeslots in accordance with the second assignment.