

CLAIMS

1. A communication apparatus comprising:
circuitry, which, in operation, generates a transmission signal comprising a
5 first signal field which comprises a first part and a second part, each comprising an
equal number of data bits, wherein the data bits of the second part of the first signal
field do not comprise version independent bits; and
a transmitter, which, in operation, transmit the generated transmission signal.
- 10 2. The communication apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first signal field has a
single format in non-trigger-based communications with one or more other
communication apparatuses.
3. The communication apparatus of claim 1, wherein the transmission signal
15 comprises a second signal field which comprises part of version dependent bits in non-
trigger-based communications.
4. The communication apparatus of claim 3, wherein the second signal field has
a format when the transmission signal is transmitted to one other communication
20 apparatus and another format when the transmission signal is transmitted to more than
one other communication apparatuses.
5. The communication apparatus of claim 3, the second signal field comprises a
preamble puncturing bitmap when the transmission signal is transmitted to one other
25 communication apparatus.
6. The communication apparatus of claim 5, wherein the preamble puncturing
bitmap has a variable bit width depending on the bandwidth of the transmission signal.
- 30 7. The communication apparatus of claim 3, wherein the first signal field
comprises information for interpreting the second signal field.
8. A communication apparatus comprising:
a receiver, which, in operation, receives a transmission signal comprising a
35 first signal field which comprises a first part and a second part, each comprising an
equal number of data bits wherein the data bits of the second part of the first signal
field do not comprise version independent bits; and
circuitry, which, in operation, processes the received transmission signal.

9. The communication apparatus of claim 8, wherein the first signal field has a single format in non-trigger-based communications regardless of whether the transmission signal is received by the communication apparatus only or by the communication apparatus and one or more other communication apparatus.

10. The communication apparatus of claim 8, wherein the transmission signal comprises a second signal field which comprises part of version dependent bits in non-trigger-based communications.

11. The communication apparatus of claim 10, wherein the second signal field has a format when the transmission signal is received by the communication apparatus only and another format when the transmission signal is received by the communication apparatus and one or more other communication apparatus..

12. The communication apparatus of claim 10, wherein the second signal field comprises a preamble puncturing bitmap when the transmission signal is received by the communication apparatus only.

13. The communication apparatus of claim 12, wherein the preamble puncturing bitmap has a variable bit width depending on the bandwidth of the transmission signal.

14. The communication apparatus of claim 10, wherein the first signal field comprises information for interpreting the second signal field.

15. A communication method comprising:
generating a transmission signal comprising a first signal field which comprises a first part and a second part, each comprising an equal number of data bits, wherein the second part of the first signal field do not contain version independent bits; and
transmitting the generated transmission signal.