CLAIMS

1. A method for coordinating communications between a user equipment and a base station, comprising:

receiving an assignment assigning timeslots within each of a plurality of contiguous radio blocks for at least one of uplink and downlink communications between the user equipment and the base station; and

after receiving the assignment of timeslots within each of a plurality of contiguous radio blocks, reducing a number of radio blocks and associated timeslots monitored by the user equipment.

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

3. The method of claim 1, including, after receiving an assignment of timeslots within each of a plurality of contiguous radio blocks, transmitting a control block to the base station, the control block identifying one or more timeslots being monitored by the user equipment.

4. The method of claim 1, including reducing the number of radio blocks and associated timeslots monitored by the user equipment only when the at least one of uplink communications and downlink communications matches a usage metric.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein the usage metric is received at least one of in an assignment message and via packet data protocol (PDP) context establishment procedures.

6. A method for coordinating communications between a user equipment and a base station, comprising:

receiving an assignment of timeslots for at least one of uplink and downlink communications between the user equipment and the base station; and

after receiving the assignment of timeslots for at least one of uplink and downlink communications, monitoring a reduced number of radio blocks and associated timeslots, the reduced number of radio blocks and associated timeslots including only non-contiguous radio blocks.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein a reduced transmission time interval protocol is utilized by the user equipment and the base station.

8. The method of claim 6, further comprising, after receiving the assignment of timeslots for at least one of uplink and downlink communications, transmitting a control block to the base station, the control block identifying one or more timeslots being monitored by the user equipment.

9. The method of claim 6, further comprising monitoring a reduced number of radio blocks and associated timeslots only when at least one of uplink communications and downlink communications reaches a usage metric.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein the usage metric is received at least one of in an assignment message and via packet data protocol (PDP) context establishment procedures.

11. A user equipment for use with a communications network including a base station, comprising:

a processor configured to:

receive an assignment assigning the timeslots within each of a plurality of contiguous radio blocks for at least one of uplink and downlink communications between the user equipment and the base station; and

after receiving the assignment of timeslots within each of a plurality of contiguous radio blocks, reduce a number of radio blocks and associated timeslots monitored by the user equipment.

12. A user equipment for use with a communications network including a base station comprising:

a processor configured to:

receive an assignment of timeslots for at least one of uplink and downlink communications between the user equipment and the base station; and

after receiving the assignment of timeslots for at least one of uplink and downlink communications, monitor a reduced number of radio blocks and associated timeslots, the reduced number of radio blocks and associated timeslots including only non-contiguous radio blocks.

What is claimed is:

1. A method for communications between a user equipment and a base station, comprising:

receiving an assignment assigning timeslots within each of a plurality of contiguous radio block periods, each radio block period including a plurality of time division multiple access (TDMA) frames and each TDMA frame including a plurality of timeslots, for at least one of uplink or downlink communications between the user equipment and the base station; and

after receiving the assignment of timeslots within each of a plurality of contiguous radio block periods, reducing a number of radio block periods and associated timeslots monitored by the user equipment to monitor only non-contiguous radio block periods and identify a timeslot that is dynamically allocated for at least one of uplink and downlink communications.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein a reduced transmission time interval protocol is utilized by at least one of the user equipment and the base station.

3. The method of claim 1, including, after receiving an assignment of timeslots within each of a plurality of contiguous radio block periods, transmitting a control block to the base station, the control block identifying one or more timeslots being monitored by the user equipment.

4. The method of claim 1, including reducing the number of radio block periods and associated timeslots monitored by the user equipment only when the at least one of uplink communications and downlink communications matches a usage metric.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein the usage metric is received at least one of in an assignment message and via packet data protocol (PDP) context establishment procedures.

6. A method for coordinating communications between a user equipment and a base station, comprising:

receiving an assignment of timeslots for at least one of uplink or downlink communications between the user equipment and the base station; and

after receiving the assignment of timeslots for at least one of uplink and downlink communications, monitoring a reduced number of radio block periods and associated timeslots to identify a timeslot that is dynamically allocated for at least one of uplink and downlink communications, the reduced number of radio block periods and associated timeslots including only non-contiguous radio block periods, each of the non-contiguous radio block periods including a plurality of time division multiple access (TDMA) frames and each of the plurality of TDMA frames including a plurality of timeslots.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein a reduced transmission time interval protocol is utilized by at least one of the user equipment and the base station.

8. The method of claim 6, further comprising after receiving the assignment of timeslots for at least one of uplink and downlink communications, transmitting a control block to the base station, the control block identifying one or more timeslots being monitored by the user equipment.

9. The method of claim 6, further comprising monitoring a reduced number of radio block periods and associated timeslots only when at least one of uplink communications and downlink communications reaches a usage metric.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein the usage metric is received at least one of in an assignment message and via packet data protocol (PDP) context establishment procedures.

11. A user equipment for use with a communications network including a base station, comprising:

a processor configured to:

receive an assignment of timeslots within each of a plurality of contiguous radio block periods, each radio block period including a plurality of time division multiple access (TDMA) frames and each TDMA frame including a plurality of timeslots, for at least one of uplink and downlink communications between the user equipment and the base station; and

after receiving the assignment of timeslots within each of a plurality of contiguous radio block periods, reducing a number of radio block periods and associated timeslots monitored by the user equipment to monitor only non-contiguous radio block periods and identify a timeslot that is dynamically allocated for at least one of uplink and downlink communications.

12. A user equipment for use with a communications network including a base station comprising:

a processor configured to:

receive an assignment of timeslots for at least one of uplink and downlink communications between the user equipment and the base station; and

after receiving the assignment of timeslots for at least one of uplink and downlink communications, monitor a reduced number of radio block periods and associated timeslots to identify a timeslot that is dynamically allocated for at least one of uplink and downlink communications, the reduced number of radio block periods and associated timeslots including only non-contiguous radio block periods, each of the non-contiguous radio block periods including a plurality of time division multiple access (TDMA) frames and each of the plurality of TDMA frames including a plurality of timeslots.