INTUG

Broadband policy issues

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INTUG what are we?

- members:
  - national associations
  - corporations
  - individuals
- activities:
  - ITU and WTO
  - OECD
  - APEC TEL, CITEL and the European Union

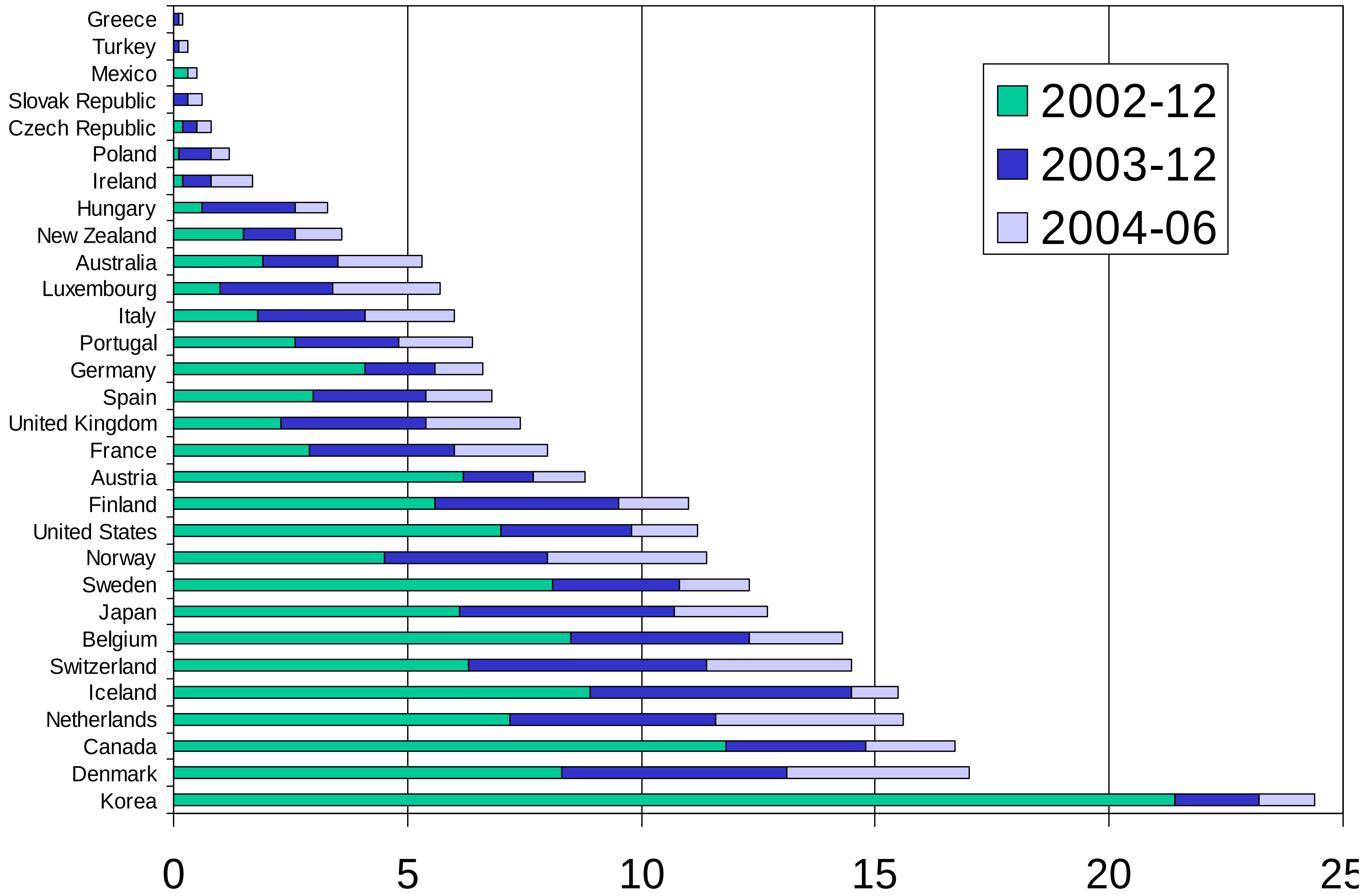
INTUG our aims

- real and effective competition
- genuine choice for users
- lower prices
- higher quality
- more innovative services
- constructive co-operation with
  - international bodies
  - governments
  - regulators

INTUG socio-economic benefits

- broadband statements adopted by
  - ITU Global Symposium for Regulators
  - OECD Council
  - EU Council of Ministers
- InfoDev toolkit (in production)

INTUG broadband in the OECD



INTUG, Copenhagen 17.iii.2005

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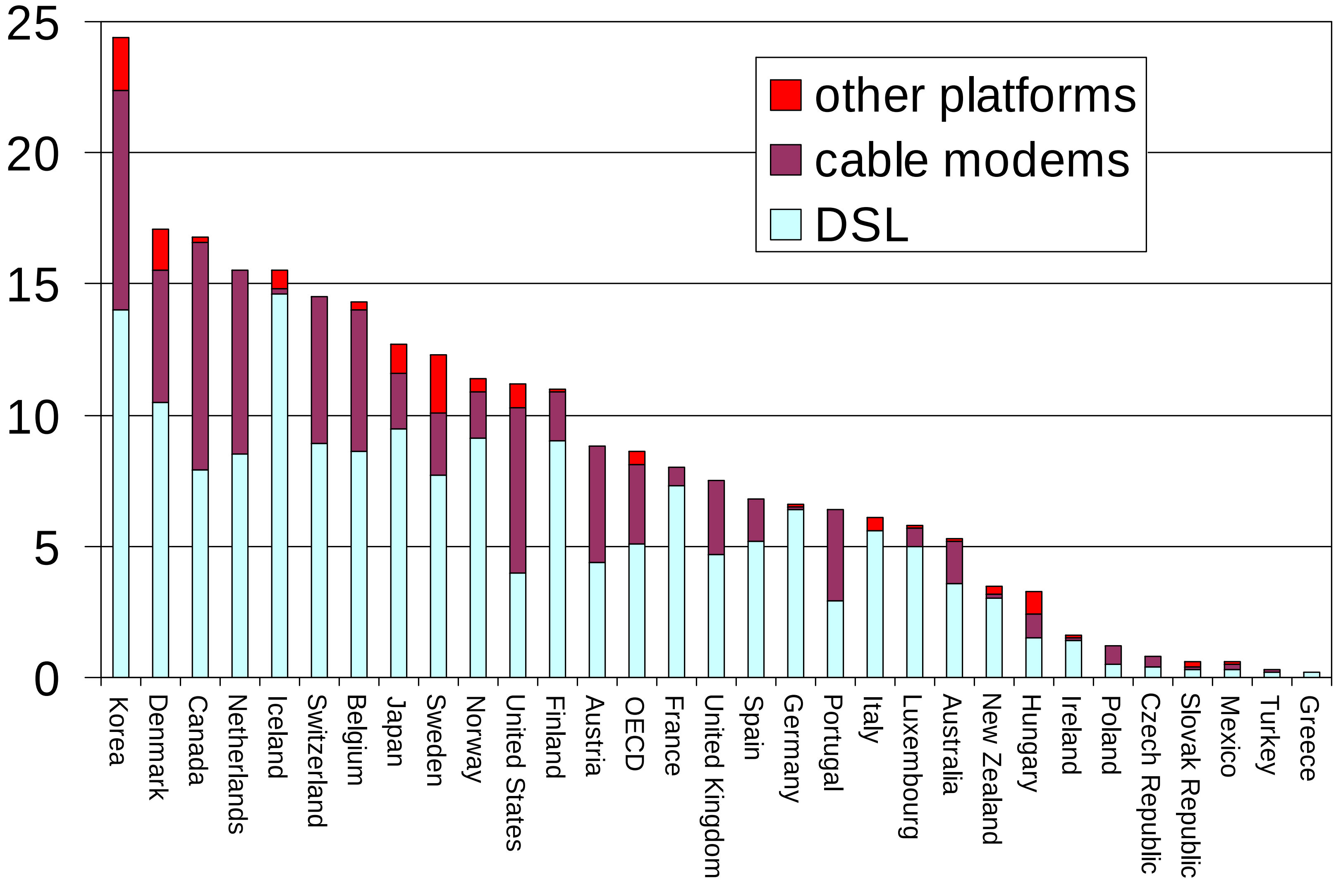
INTUG broadband in the OECD



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INTUG local loop unbundling

- implementation results vary enormously:
  - powerful incumbent operators
  - weak national regulatory authorities
- mostly failing, powers being inadequate or the regulators too timid.
- operators ensure the arguments and appeals are protracted and complex, seeking to delay their rivals
- is something more dramatic needed?
- should unbundling be applied to cable television networks?
- is competition from other networks now sufficient to allow countries to phase out LLU?

INTUG powerline communications

- repeatedly been presented as the solution to competition with the PSTN
- to date, very few lines have ever been deployed
- what lessons can we learn from the failure of PLC?
- are utility companies better encouraged to look at building fibre networks?

INTUG Fibre To The Home (FTTH)

- some significant deployments of FTTH
  - Japan
  - USA – SBC and Verizon
- sometimes just near the home then:
  - copper
  - WiMAX
- do the access and unbundling regulations for copper networks work for fibre?
- or, do we need something different to ensure investment and competition?

INTUG municipalities

- many are building
  - ducts
  - networks (both fibre and radio)
- are policies ensuring that these efforts are pro-competitive?
- are the resources in place to help them exchange information on the latest:
  - technologies
  - business practices

INTUG spectrum

- can provide broadband by radio in several bands, e.g.,
  – 450 MHz
  – 3.5 GHz.
- Wireless ISPs
  – positive evidence
  – different economies of scale
  – can compete
- are all possible bands clear, available and assigned to competitive/competing operators?

INTUG cdma450 MHz

- deployed widely in emerging markets:
  - Romania and Czech Republic
  - Argentina and Brasil
- proven technology
- proven business model
- resisted by 3GSM operators

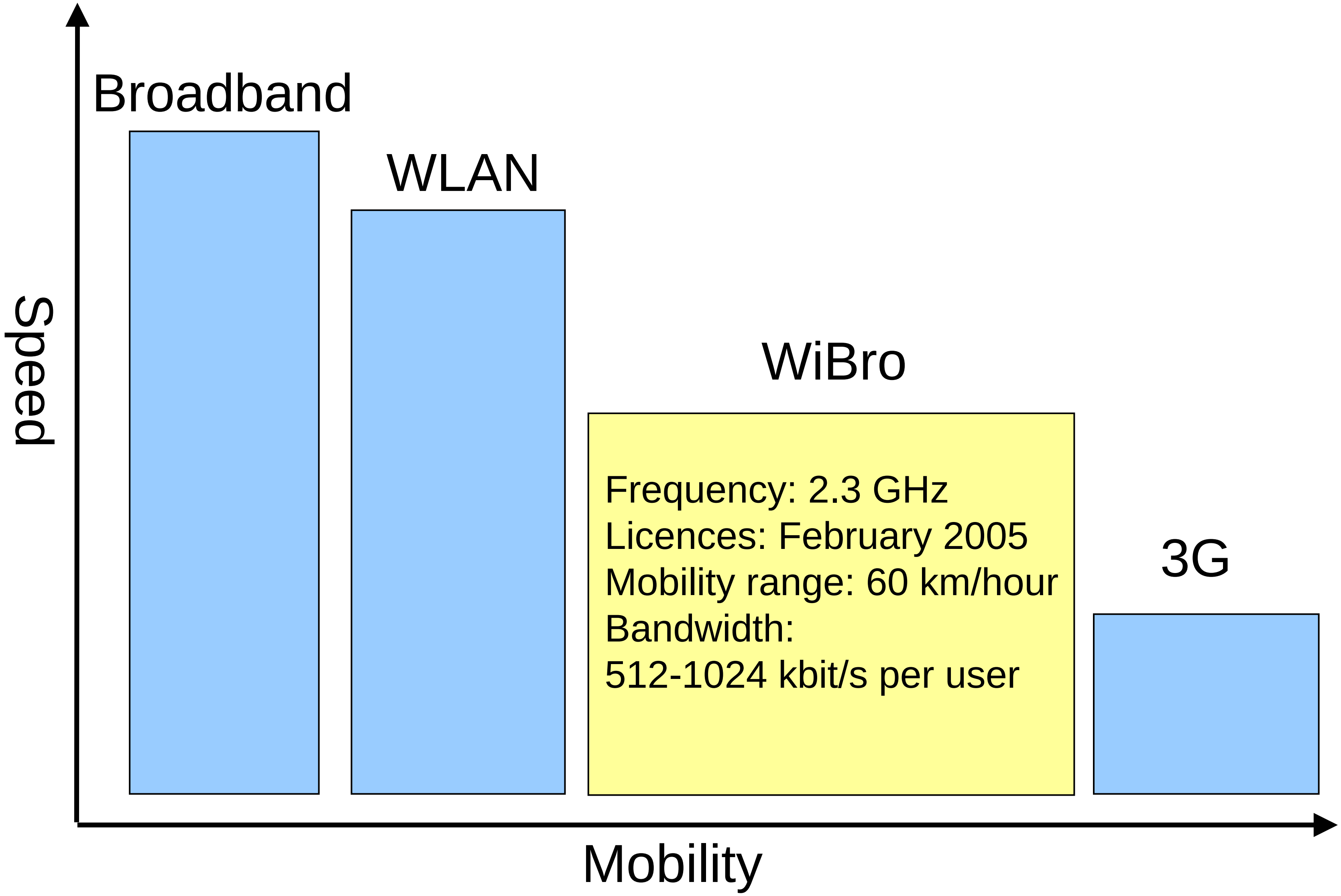
INTUG satellite

- ideal for rural and remote areas
- different technical and economic characteristics from terrestrial networks
- does satellite need further encouragement?

INTUG ubiquity

- any device, any network, any place
- seems to presuppose:
  - competitive market structure
  - all operators have access to multiple network pathways
- new technologies and spectrum will be added incrementally
- operators must ease customers onto new networks and services
- is it the right target?

INTUG Korean wireless broadband



INTUG content

- some operators are not satisfied providing a “dumb” pipe
- they want to obtain higher revenues by supplying content
- should operators be allowed to charge a premium (to suppliers or users) for some types of content?

INTUG universal service

- should broadband be added to the Universal Service Obligation (USO)?
- if so, how might it be defined?
  - technology
  - capacity
  - price
- some argued that to deliver broadband to rural areas it must be added to the Universal Service Obligation (USO)
- but this could stifle competition from satellite and WISPs by consolidating the position of the incumbent operator

INTUG challenges

- what lessons do we learn from the unbundling saga?
- what should be the target(s) for:
  - the near future?
  - medium term?
- what maximises competition?
- how do we ensure we have sufficient options for future policies?

INTUG thank you

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