Spirent Landslide™ for the Evolution to 5G

5G Mobility Infrastructure Testing Platform

The Evolution to 5G

The next generation of mobile networks—commonly known as 5G—promises a revolution in cellular communications enabling services such as massive IoT, Fixed Wireless Access and enhanced Mobile BroadBand (eMBB).

Based on completely new radio access, core and network design (including slicing, separation of control and user plane and distributed network functions), 5G supports massive density of devices of any kind, operating at increased speeds with minimum latency, while making an efficient use of the network’s resources.

To ensure a successful adoption of this new technology carriers and equipment manufacturers alike must define an evolution strategy (from 4G extensions and 5G non-standalone to true native-5G), and ensure that the infrastructure can handle the requirements of such evolution.

Spirent’s Landslide emulates 5G devices and network functions to validate new 5G mobile and core nodes, ensuring their readiness to deliver high-quality 5G services.

Landslide Features

The Spirent Landslide 5G mobility infrastructure test platform incorporates device emulation and network testing capabilities that expand through various 3GPP releases (Release 13 and onward). The Landslide 5G testing feature set supports validation needs for the entire evolution path to 5G:

1. Extensions to 4G
   - High scale device emulation of all types including IoT devices as defined in the CAT-M and NB-IoT standards supporting PSM and eDRX
   - IoT-specific node testing and emulators such as: CIoT Serving Gateway Node (C-SGN), Service Capability Exposure Function (SCEF) and the enhanced-for-IoT Home Subscriber Server (HSS)
   - Network slicing testing and emulation in different forms such as Release 13 Dedicated Core (i.e., DECOR)
   - Release 14 Control and User Plane Separation (CUPS), nodes testing with supporting node emulators such as SGW-C, SGW-U, PGW-C, PGW-U
   - Virtualized-network testing supporting DevOps methodologies for optimized deployment
   - Device and service Busy Hour call modelling

2. Non-Standalone 5G
   - 4G/5G Dual-connectivity: High scale 5G device emulation of any kind (eg: smartphone, IoT, vCPE, ...), with 4G and 5G radio access node emulation (eNodeB, gNB), for dual-connectivity testing as defined as Option 3 in 3GPP standards
   - Combined 5G and non-5G device load generation capability
   - 5G to 4G fallback scenario emulation
   - 4G to 5G and 5G to 4G S1-U re-selection based on service requirements
   - Device and service Busy Hour call modelling
   - Full 4G Core emulation for 5G RAN and dual-connectivity testing

3. True Native 5G
   - High scale 5G device and radio access (gNB) emulation to test both 5G Reference-point based or 5G Service-based E2E core network architectures with Intra and Inter RAT mobility (including EPS fallback)
   - High scale 5G Core nodes testing and emulation (AMF, SMF,UPF) exposing and testing N3, N4, N6, N11 interfaces
   - 5G Service nodes testing and emulation (AUSF, UDM, PCF, NREF, NSSF) exposing and testing N7, N8, N10, N12, N13, N15, N22 interfaces
   - Full RAN and Control Plane emulation to test and isolate UPF (exposing and testing N3, N4, N6 interfaces)
   - Full RAN and User Plane to test and isolate AMFs and SMFs exposing N1, N2, N11 and N6 interfaces
   - Full 5G Core and content emulation for 5G RAN and device testing
   - Support for complex Native CUPS and Native Slicing topologies
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System Overview

Spirent Landslide’s 5G emulation feature set, capacities and performance align with the requirements of the evolution towards 5G, being able to emulate millions of devices of all types communicating with the network at rates of tens of thousands of events per second and traffic of Gigabits per second. With its unique dynamic testing capability, Landslide can test all the 4G and 5G infrastructure nodes in isolation and subsequently change the testing topology to progressively incorporate more nodes to the testbed for a full end-to-end network or slice validation.

Complex 5G call modeling scenarios can be created that include specific 5G devices in various stages of activation, deactivation, dual-connectivity, handovers and 5G data transfers. Carriers also can capture measurements in the live 5G network and replicate them in the lab with Landslide for increased realism in the testbed.

In addition to the extensive 5G testing capabilities, Spirent Landslide also offers individual 5G-related node emulators (e.g., gNB, AMF, SMF, UPF, PCF, AUSF, NREF, NSSF, SGW-C, SGW-U, PGW-C, PGW-U, etc.). This emulation option is ideal for lab setups where a 3GPP compliant node is required to complete a test objective.
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Applications

- **Generate** massive scale of device connections and diverse speed traffic patterns to the network as it is expected in 5G
- **Validate** virtual core 5G deployments throughout the entire DevOps lifecycle
- **Verify** compliance of 3GPP Release 15 5G core nodes, interfaces and service points in isolation prior to network integration
- **Validate** CUPS multi-node deployment per-service scaling and performance
- **Define** Define network slicing (e.g., Native 5G, EDECOR, DECOR, etc.) based on services requirements and verify correct slice traffic routing
- **Quantify** slices’ performance in terms of latency and throughput

- **Emulate** 5G UEs over Wi-Fi to verify non-3GPP access to the 5G N3IWF and AMF
- **Validate** Intra-5G and I-RAT mobility and Inter-Technology mobility
- **Test** Dual-RAN access against different EPCs and network slices
- **Analyze** RAN performance and handoff based on service quality requirements
- **Design** backhaul size and connectivity to support 5G demands
- **Perform** progressive network integration and interoperability of the new 5G nodes
- **Validate** confidentiality (SUPI encryption) and authentication mechanisms (5G AKA/5G EAP-AKA') as defined by 5G’s enhanced security requirements
- **Evaluate** optimal number of PDU sessions and their associated serving network slices based on services requirement
- **Design** automated procedures of network function distribution and Local Area Data Network (LADN), around Multi-Access Edge Computing (MEC)
- **Analyze** and monitor quality of 5G services under real world conditions
- **Characterize** traffic prioritization and resources management policies for 5G in shared networks
- **Perform** load testing with busy hour call modeling
- **Test** lab completion with related emulators: AMF, SMF, UPF, UDM, AUSF, PCF, NREF, NSSF, SGW-U, SGW-C, PGW-U, PGW-C, gNB

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![Image of network diagram and test case settings](image-url)
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About Spirent Communications
Spirent Communications (LSE: SPT) is a global leader with deep expertise and decades of experience in testing, assurance, analytics and security, serving developers, service providers, and enterprise networks.

We help bring clarity to increasingly complex technological and business challenges.

Spirent’s customers have made a promise to their customers to deliver superior performance. Spirent assures that those promises are fulfilled.

For more information, visit: www.spirent.com

Technical Specifications

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Landslide is part of Spirent’s Lifecycle Service Assurance (LSA) solution suite. To learn more about Landslide and LSA, please visit: www.spirent.com/Products/Landslide and www.spirent.com/Solutions/Service-Assurance

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