

# **Net Neutrality & Non-BIAS Data Services**

Open Technology Institute at New America, Public  
Knowledge, Barbara van Schewick, Scott Jordan

March 22, 2024

# Comcast sparks field trials of low-latency DOCSIS

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Jeff Baumgartner, Senior Editor  
June 16, 2023

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## Latest News

over BIAS



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NETWORK PRESS RELEASE

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non-BIAS data service?



## Verizon Demo: Network Slicing Improves Video Performance for Public Safety

Posted on December 5, 2023 9:11am by [Phil Britt](#)



5G

Verizon

enterprise service

**1) Evasion**

**2) Innovative offers as part of BIAS**

**3) Impact on capacity & performance**

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“If the Commission determines that a particular service is ‘. . . [being] used to evade the [Open Internet] protections,’ we will take appropriate enforcement action.”

2015 Open Internet Order, para. 210, citing 2010 Open Internet Order, para. 113

**Clarify when  
providing a different type of service  
to applications  
evades the Open Internet protections**

Such offers evade the Open Internet protections unless:

- the particular type of application requires a specific level of quality of service, which is objectively necessary for the specific type of application,
- that cannot be met over a well-provisioned broadband Internet access service in compliance with the Open Internet protections (including via the type of application-agnostic, user-controlled, and user-paid Quality of Service described next).

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Transparently disclose objective technical evidence that clearly demonstrates:

- The specific level of quality of service objectively required by the specific type of application (e.g., video conferencing); and
- These Quality of Service requirements cannot be met by a well-provisioned BIAS service.

**1) Evasion**

**2) Innovative offers as part of BIAS**

**3) Impact on capacity & performance**



# **Net neutrality-friendly Quality of Service**

**1) Application-agnostic:** available to all apps and classes of apps & no discrimination in the provision of the different types of service

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- 4) **Protecting the quality of the default BIAS service**

## 4) Protecting and improving the quality of the “best effort” Internet

- The introduction of the additional types of service does not significantly degrade the performance of the default BIAS service available at that time; and
- the capacity and performance of the default BIAS service continue to improve over time.



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**-> violates the no-throttling rule**

**3) End user-paid (?)**

**-> violates the no paid prioritization rule,  
if charging edge provider**

# **Why allow application-agnostic, user-controlled, user-paid Quality of Service as part of BIAS?**

- competition
- innovation
- user choice
- fuel the virtuous cycle



NN  
friendly  
QoS





NN  
friendly  
QoS

**1) Evasion**

**2) Innovative offers as part of BIAS**

**3) Impact on capacity & performance**

**Impact of  
permissible specialized services on  
capacity & performance of BIAS**

**Specialized services  
may harm the open Internet  
by degrading BIAS**

**Specialized services  
may harm the open Internet  
by degrading BIAS**

FCC took steps to prevent that

**2010**

ensure that specialized services  
do not **constrict or retard the growth** of  
the capacity available for BIAS

**2015**

Authority to intervene  
if specialized services **harm the open internet**

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1) Capacity isolation



**2015**

Authority to intervene  
if specialized services **harm the open internet**

- 1) Capacity isolation
- 2) Disclose impact of specialized services on capacity and performance of BIAS

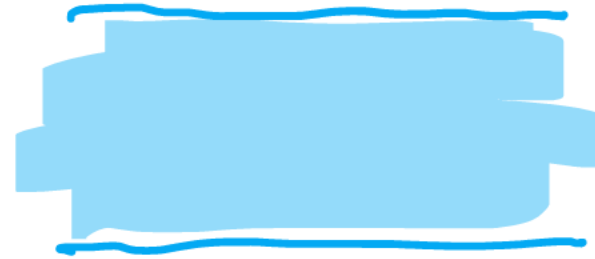
**update guidance  
in response to technical developments**

# Separate capacity

non  
BIAS



BIAS



# Dynamically share capacity

non  
BIAS

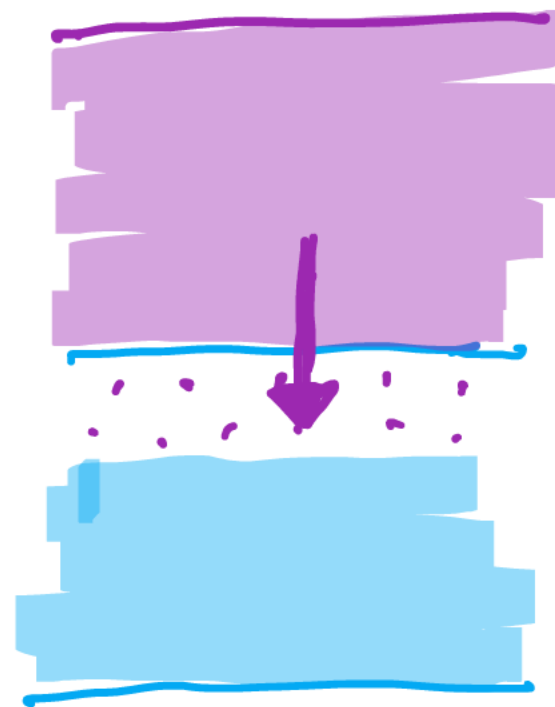
BIAS



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non  
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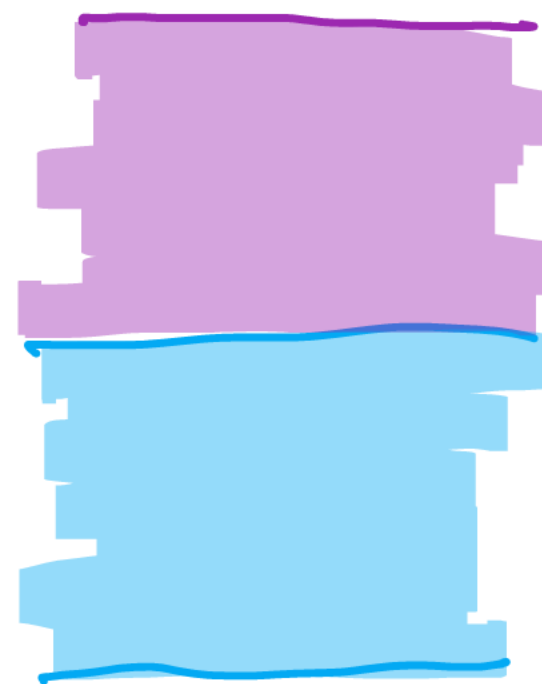
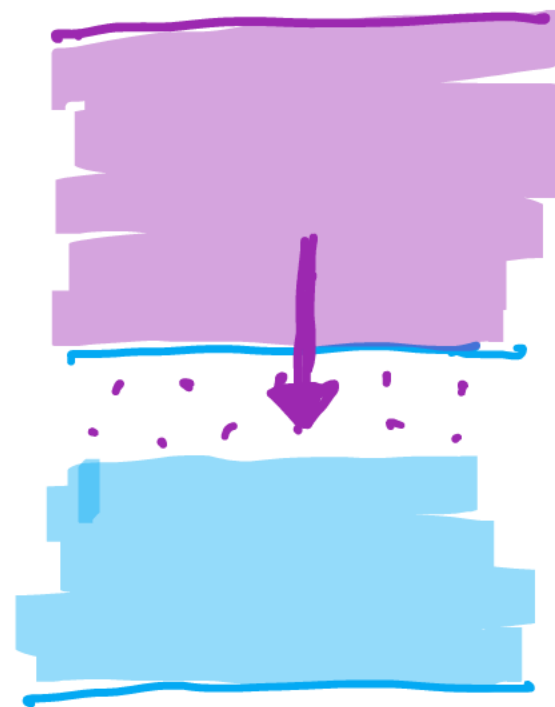
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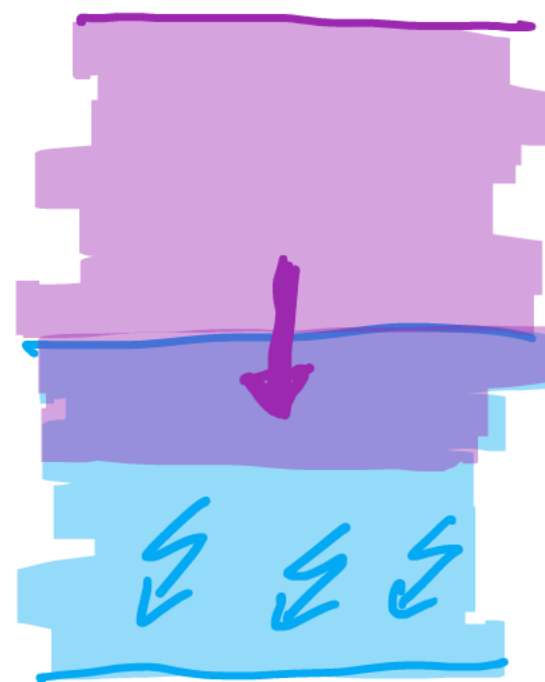
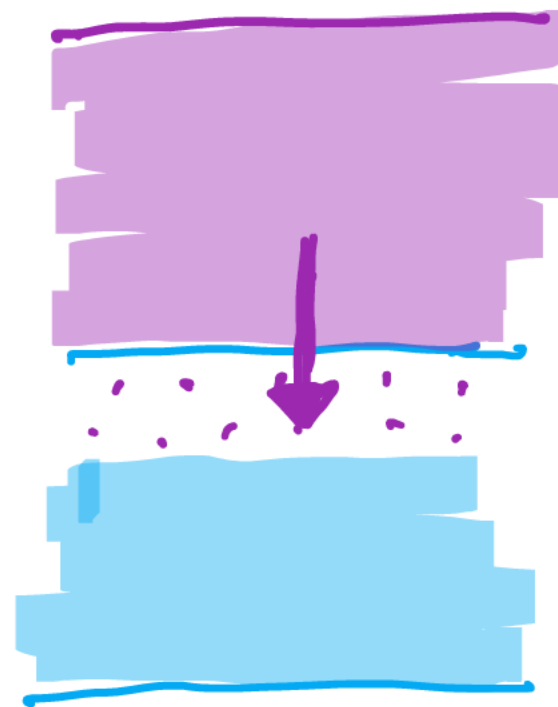
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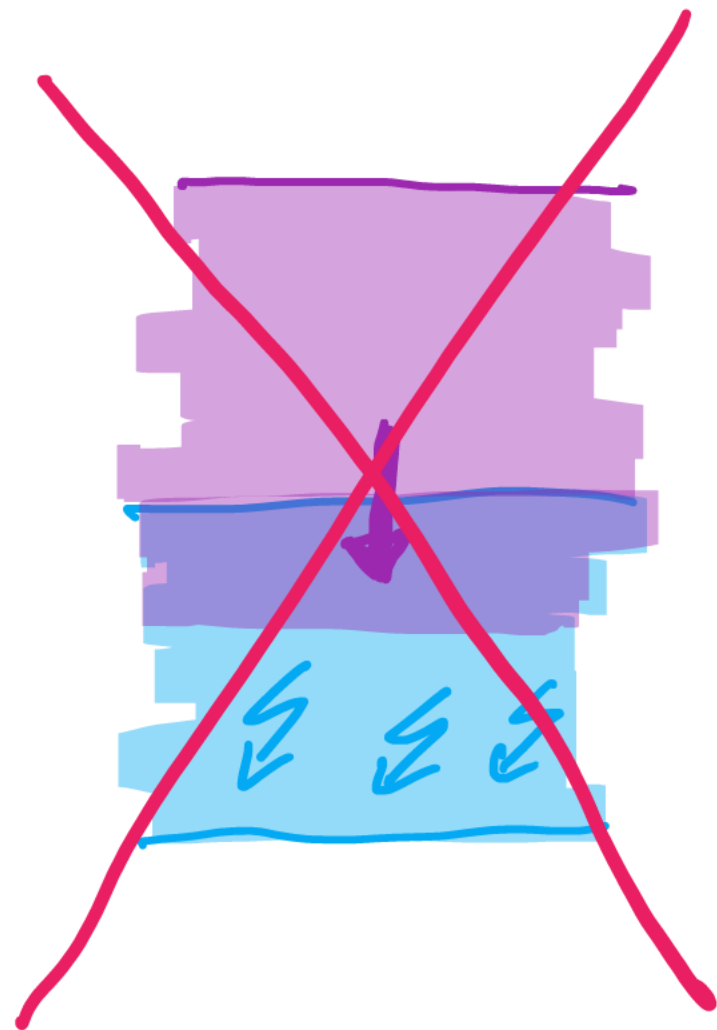
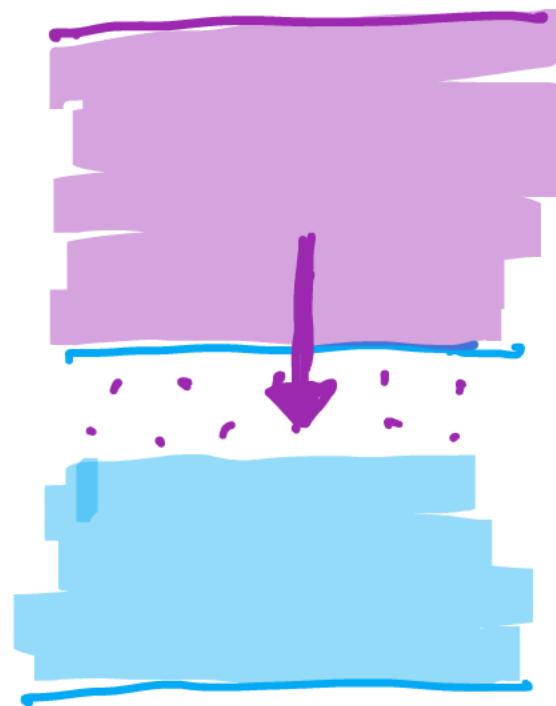


# Dynamically share capacity

non  
BIAS



BIAS





Any non-BIAS data service:

1. may only minimally affect the performance of BIAS, including during times of congestion, and
2. may not constrict or slow the growth of the capacity available for, and the performance of, BIAS over time.