

# Preface

The perfect engine does not win the race. Similarly, Software Defined Radio and Opportunistic Spectrum Access open up great opportunities to realize ubiquitous wireless services. However, only smart(er) operation of these engines will result in truly benefiting from them. In this book we aim to introduce and apply a practical design approach towards smart(er) and cognitive radios. We are grateful that Springer is willing to publish this book on smart(er) and cognitive radios, whereby we don't want to claim other radios (books) were dumb. Dear reader, we hope you may find some ideas of interest to your work or study, or maybe a case that could help improve your products. We want to acknowledge our colleagues at IMEC, Bell Labs and their networks for their great scientific contribution, and the enlightening discussions, both technically and way beyond. This book's creation faced fierce competition from our busy professional occupation, and 'rush-hour' in our personal life. Two babies left the 'design phase' to go in 'real-life operation', and even runtime, while three other children showed to be running ever faster, and evolving to 'advanced cognitive' behavior. We thank Liselore, Seppe, Stien, Nore and Sara for the inspiration they bring in our lives.

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