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# **Introductory Chapter: Primary and Secondary Users in Cognitive Radio-Based Wireless Communication Systems**

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Additional information is available at the end of the chapter

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## **1. Wireless communications and the necessity of cognitive radio**

Wireless communication systems play a special role in human life, facilitate the life, and change the world much more in the future. The diversity of applications and services of wireless communications indicates the widespread use of wireless systems and equipment in the future. Since the first radio link by Marconi in 1896, it has been more than 120 years, and several wireless communication systems have been introduced up to now. Meanwhile, the advancement of cellular wireless communications, whose idea came back to 1947 and their first generation in 1978 (namely advanced mobile phone service), has been well adopted and has grown dramatically, so that the researchers and operators are focused on standardization and design of 5G and 6G wireless communication systems [1].

From the beginning, one of the main problems in wireless communications is the scarcity of radio resources (frequency, time, and power). In recent years, the lack of frequency spectrum and the necessity of frequency reuse at different times and places and reduction of the consumed power are of great importance. Looking at the following laws:

- Moore's law: The number of transistors that can be cheaply placed on a microchip doubles and the computer power exponentially increases approximately every 2 years [2]
- Cooper's law: The number of voice calls or data that can be sent over the usable radio spectrum doubles every 30 months [2]

It is clear that, in spite of the rapid technological changes, the number of requests for accessing the wireless systems and the achievable data rate is sharply increasing. In order to achieve the ultimate goal of communications, “Communications at anytime, anywhere, with anything (human, machine and object), at a low cost, low power consumption, high quality and reliability, with high speed and low latency,” extensive research, design, and implementation of new techniques and technologies are required. Hence, it is necessary to anticipate the future trend in designing, upgrading, improving, and deploying wireless communication systems because it is essential to know the following:

- What are the users’ requests and operators’ plans?
- What are the limitations and drawbacks of current techniques and technologies?
- What is the current technology trend and what changes are needed in the future?
- What is the strategy?

In order to achieve the intended goals, the following are crucial and critical aspects [3]:

- Reusing the available radio spectrum in both time and space and use of new spectrum
- Eliminating the technological and technical constraints to achieve higher capacity
- Reducing the cost of designing, configuring, and installing a wireless network
- Decreasing the time needed to operate and deploy the system
- Reducing the hardware changes and making the ability of more software processing
- Standards, instructions, and recommendations.

One of the most important issues in wireless communications that require accurate recognition and modeling is the transmission channel. The high diversity of wireless communication channels and their time and frequency variant nature make the issue more relevant. The various types of channels in modeling, simulation, and measurements depend on the following categories and classifications:

- Indoor or outdoor/line of sight (LOS) or non-LOS (NLOS)
- Sparse or dense, based on the density of users or base stations (servers)
- The location of the users and servers to each other
- Single, double, or multilayer, in terms of coverage and the type of cells
- Homogeneity or heterogeneity of the network
- Type of control, signaling, measurement, and decision
- Noise-dominant or interference-dominant

This diversity reflects the differences and variations in the models and analyses. Therefore, it requires comprehensive research, because necessarily the model of each channel is not applicable or cannot be extended to the other channels. Hence, the dynamic cognition of the environment and the adjustment and adaptation of system parameters are the main goals.

The static spectrum allocation has over the years led to many successful applications, but it has also resulted in a situation where almost all the available frequency spectrum has been assigned to specific applications and there is no space for emerging services. On the other hand, it is shown that the spectrum is actually underutilized in time or space.

The spectrum scarcity problem has led researchers and operators to use the licensed spectrum efficiently and reuse it by considering the resource reuse techniques and introduce new frequency ranges. Briefly, we can see the main solutions for spectrum allocation:

- Array processing and signal improvement
- Multi-input multi-output (MIMO) technology
- Non-orthogonal multiple access (NOMA)
- Waveforms with high spectral efficiency, low inter-symbol interference (ISI), and a controlled peak-to-average power ratio (PAPR)
- Adaptive coding and modulation based on the signal and channel quality
- New frequency bands in the range of millimeter wavelengths and terahertz frequencies

It is suggested that new devices use the underutilized spectrum in an opportunistic manner, which is the core idea behind the cognitive radio (CR). Cognitive radio is a radio that is aware of the environment and can adapt the transmissions according to noise, interference, and channel variations. CR is based on software-defined radio (SDR). It means that a CR system at least needs “flexibility and agility”, “sensing”, and “learning and adaptability”.

## 2. Cognitive radio

Cognitive radio was first introduced by Mitola [4], which is aware of the surrounding environment and is able to change its parameters to improve user performance. Measurements and research studies show that some parts of the spectrum are not used in time and space. These parts, which are named white spaces (as shown in **Figure 1**), have no active primary users. Secondary users in these parts of the spectrum will be able to detect and communicate with each other freely. This method is called the overlay manner, which is considered in many radio systems [6]. Also, in the other parts of the spectrum, the power level is very low. By using the capabilities of the cognitive radio, this part of the spectrum can be used in the underlay manner, if the transmit power of the secondary users be controlled below a pre-defined threshold level, and it does not make any harmful impact on the primary users [7]. Herein, we mention the coexistence of CR-based systems as follows:

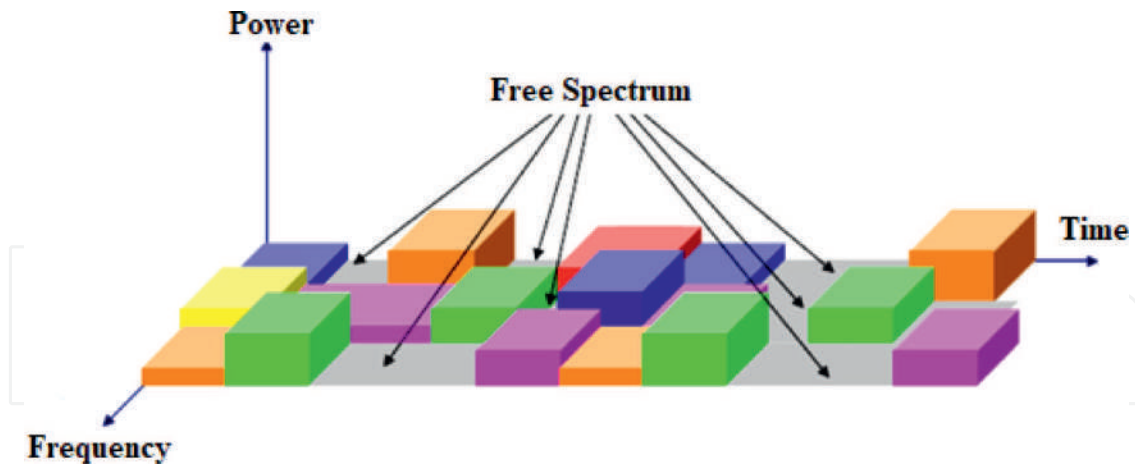


Figure 1. The free and occupied spectrums [5].

- Low-power spread spectrum communications along with existing narrowband systems
- Low-power technologies such as ultra-wide-band (UWB) and near-field communications (NFC)
- Unicast and multicast device-to-device (D2D) communications
- Multilayer heterogeneous structures based on macrocell, femtocell, nanocell, picocell, and attocell, and underlaying or overlaying conventional cellular systems.

Three important characteristics of the cognitive radio system are awareness, cognition, and adaptability [8]. Awareness means that the system has the ability to measure and sense the environment if the spectrum is free or occupied, location of the radio source, user profiles, and even the traffic and propagation characteristics of the network. Cognition, in fact, shows the ability to process information received from the environment, which should be used for making an optimal system performance. The third concept is the ability to set the parameters of the system without making any modification in the system hardware using SDR. According to these CR characteristics, it is actually a completely dynamic system in which its parameters such as frequency, transmit power, antenna pattern, transmission protocol, modulation type, coding rate, and communication technology are reconfigurable [9]. Therefore, dynamic access to the spectrum, as the main part of a cognitive radio, can help to overcome the spectrum scarcity and reuse the unused spectrum [10].

In addition to dynamic access to the spectrum, other applications are also noteworthy. For example, localization, radio frequency energy harvesting (RF-EH), D2D communications, navigation of vehicles such as a CR-based unmanned autonomous vehicle (UAV), vehicle-to-vehicle (V2V) communications, and machine-to-machine (M2M) communications.

### 3. Spectrum sharing in cognitive radio

Spectrum sharing, as the main part of a cognitive radio, has five important parts [11–15]:

1. Spectrum sensing dependent on the following items:

- Wireless channel: Quality of channel (path loss and noise), temporal and spatial variations of channel (multipath fading and shadowing), and type of link (LOS or NLOS)
- Network: Homogeneous or non-homogeneous
- User: Personal, social, and physical characteristics
- Other aspects: Complexity, power consumption, type of management,...

2. Spectrum allocation

3. Spectrum access

4. Handshake between transmitter and receiver

5. Spectrum mobility

Spectrum sharing classifications are based on:

1. Frequency band

- Horizontal (open) such as industrial, scientific, and medical (ISM) band
  - Coexistence
  - Spectrum sharing games
  - Centralized spectrum coordination
- Vertical (hierarchical)
  - Reuse of TV bands
  - Spectrum pooling and common control
  - Operator-assisted
  - Spectrum load smoothing

2. Access to the spectrum

- Underlay, such as orthogonal frequency division multiplexing (OFDM), UWB, and spread spectrum
- Overlay (opportunistic)

3. Network structure and control scenario such as centralized, decentralized, and distributed

4. Type of cooperation of secondary users such as cooperative, non-cooperative (selfish), coexistence, spectrum sharing games, and centralized spectrum coordination



## 4. Primary and secondary users in cognitive radio-based systems

By defining the priority in the usage of the assigned radio frequency spectrum, two types of users, namely primary users (PUs) and secondary users (SUs), can coexist under a specific policy. Usually, the SUs are allowed to use the spectrum in such a way that they do not cause any harmful interference on the PUs, overlay or underlay. One of the important functions of a CR system in the overlay manner is spectrum sensing. It is the ability to detect the existence of the PUs in the frequency band. Many attempts have been done to develop the applicable approaches in the spectrum sensing process. Some of the centralized and distributed scenarios for narrowband and wideband signals have been introduced [16]. Complexity, signaling and overhead, presence of multiple SUs, small and large-scale fading phenomena and shadowing, and power consumption are the main aspects of designing efficient spectrum sensing algorithms. In this area, several spectrum sensing techniques such as energy detection (ED), cooperative detection, wavelet detection, and covariance detection have been proposed and investigated [17]. Spectrum sensing approaches can be categorized into blind, semi-blind, and non-blind classes. Though some methods can acquire channel state information by minimizing the variance of channel or noise uncertainty, they are not complexity-efficient for some applications such as wireless sensor networks (WSNs) [18, 19], OFDM-based cognitive radio [20], ultra-dense networks (UDNs), D2D communications, and cognitive radio heterogeneous networks (CR-HetNets). In the following, two examples of CR-based systems including primary and secondary users are presented.

### 4.1. CR-based HetNets

In recent years, several new technologies have been envisioned to fulfill the increasing demands of future wireless networks and meet the requirements of the fifth generation (5G) mobile standard. The main goal of these technologies is to improve the network performance in terms of the quality of service, the number of users, coverage, data rate, spectral efficiency, and end-to-end latency. A heterogeneous network (HetNet) is an important emerging technology that has been proposed for next-generation cellular networks, where multiple network tiers, from macrocells to small cells, coexist in the same coverage area [21]. Recently, CR technology has been proposed to be combined with HetNets to further improve the spectral efficiency of these networks [22]. Employing the CR technology in HetNet (namely CR-HetNet) has introduced the concept of vertical spectrum sharing in which low-priority users in a macrocell, which are referred to as cognitive secondary users (CSUs), are handed over to small cells, and they try to access the spectrum of the primary users in that cell [23, 24]. This spectrum sharing can be performed in an underlay or an overlay manner [25]. In the underlay spectrum sharing method, the CSUs can access the spectrum by only complying with the PU's stringent requirements, such as interference avoidance rules and maximum allowable transmission power. In the overlay spectrum sharing, the CSUs can utilize a portion of the frequency band left completely idle by the PUs. In a CR-HetNet, both the PUs and CSUs can be served by either the macro base station (MBS) or femto base stations (FBSs). However, as the CSU may move out of the coverage area of the MBS or the MBS may require offloading, the CSU needs to perform vertical handover (VHO) from the MBS to the FBS. In this case, the CSUs must sense

the underutilized spectrum of the FBS to find an appropriate channel and then perform VHO on that channel. Once a PU requests the same channel, the CSU should leave that channel, perform spectrum handover (SHO), and switch to another appropriate free channel [26]. A management strategy is then necessary to control the number of SHOs, decrease the number of unnecessary handovers, and minimize the effect of multiple interruptions [27–30].

The CR-HetNet technology has shown great potential to meet the demands of both users and networks in the future wireless networks [31]. Hot topics in this field of research are:

- Resource allocation
- Offloading and handover due to traffic load or propagation conditions [32, 33] in the form of VHO, horizontal handover (HHO), and SHO
- Clustering to speed up the resource allocation and power control
- Power control, interference alignment, and energy harvesting

#### 4.2. D2D communications

One of the main strategies for reusing radio resources is D2D communications between two adjacent users. D2D pairs, directly or through a relay, overlay, or underlay or in-band or out-band, transmit and receive the signal [34, 35]. By using D2D communications, the delay and the traffic load of the main network decrease, the spectral efficiency increases, and the consumed energy and cost reduce [36]. In order to do the optimum resource allocation in D2D communications, we have two approaches. In the first one, regarding the signal quality, minimizing the outage probability and in the second one, in view of the traffic and the desired throughput, maximizing the throughput can be achieved. In an in-band underlay manner, in addition to considering the noise effects and multi-path fading phenomenon, it is necessary to add the effect of interference arising from the reused radio resources [37, 38]. With the help of fixed or mobile relay nodes, the distance between the transmitter and receiver nodes of a D2D pair increases and the quality of service (QoS) improves. In the field of the D2D communications underlaying cellular network, first the communication mode should be selected between conventional cellular, relay-assisted cellular, direct D2D, and relay-assisted (or relay-aided) D2D modes. The relay has a limited coverage area much lower than a BTS, but it can handle the signals between two distant D2D users, which improves the total achievable throughput especially for the users near to the cell boundary. Several relaying strategies have been proposed, including amplify-and-forward (AF) and decode-and-forward (DF). Joint resource allocation and power control of direct/relay-aided D2D communications underlaying/overlaying cellular network is an NP-hard problem. In addition to optimum mode selection, resource allocation, and power control, finding the proper power splitting (PS) factor of relay nodes in an energy-harvested D2D communication is a goal. Achieving low-complexity closed-form expressions for the outage probability and throughput helps us to do the optimization problem in an acceptable processing time [39]. **Table 1** summarizes the advantages and disadvantages of different underlay and overlay scenarios in D2D communications, in view of interference, collision, outage probability, reuse factor, and achievable throughput.



No.	Scheme	Advantages	Disadvantages
1	Underlay (non-orthogonal)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Activating D2D pairs with active licensed resources</li><li>• No spectrum sensing needed</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Interference</li><li>• No use of idle licensed resources</li></ul>
2	Overlay (orthogonal)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Activating D2D pairs by idle licensed resources</li><li>• No interference</li><li>• Moderate spectrum efficiency</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Collision</li></ul>
3	Underlay/overlay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Activating D2D pairs by both idle/active licensed resources</li><li>• High spectrum efficiency</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Interference</li><li>• Collision</li></ul>
4	Random access k-reuse underlay/overlay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• High spectrum efficiency</li><li>• Higher reuse factor to 3</li><li>• Higher throughput to 3</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Interference</li><li>• Collision</li><li>• Higher outage to 3</li></ul>
5	Overlapped access k-reuse underlay/Overlay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• High spectrum efficiency</li><li>• Higher reuse factor to 3</li><li>• Higher throughput to 4</li><li>• Lower outage to 4</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Interference</li><li>• Collision</li></ul>

**Table 1.** Comparison of different resources reused in D2D communications [40].

Sometimes in a network, a number of nearby users may request a file (for example, a movie). In such cases, we can put those users who need the same information in a group by clustering. In the multicast D2D communications, D2D users are assigned to different clusters, each one including one cluster head and multiple cluster members. In this model, the main problem is the interference between the co-channel D2D and cellular users, which can be controlled by an efficient clustering and resource allocation. The user who can support more files will be chosen as the transmitter that multicasts the required information to the other users in that cluster. A multicast scenario combines the benefits of both a fixed cellular infrastructure and the flexibility of an ad-hoc network. In order to choose the proper cluster head and cluster the devices, it is necessary to consider some of the social and physical features. For example, social trust is a good standard for family members, friends and colleagues, and mutual trust is a good metric for beneficial collaboration among unknown users. The greater the social association of the users equals the higher chance of the nodes being in a similar group. Moreover, users close to each other need less energy for direct D2D communications, and those who have more neighbors have a higher priority for clustering. The weight of each criterion depends on the purpose of clustering [41, 42]. Hence, minimizing the outage probability and maximizing the throughput, are the main goals for resource allocation.

Hot topics in the field of unicast and multicast D2D communications are:

- Modeling based on the stochastic geometry, game theory, and graph theory
- Solving the optimization problems through fast tools and problem solvers

- Selection between direct/relay-based cellular and direct/relay-based D2D modes
- Selection between overlay or underlay scenarios
- Sharing between in-band or out-band frequencies
- Resource allocation and clustering
- Power control and energy efficiency
- Energy harvesting and energy saving

## 5. Future studies

New research topics that have been taken in recent years as strategies for the optimal use of radio resources, the further development of cognitive radio, and the improvement of the efficiency of wireless communication systems include:

- Massive-MIMO and ultra-dense networks
- Non-orthogonal multiple access techniques
- Power control based on beamforming or on-off techniques
- Green communications to save the resources and decrease the biological effects
- RF energy harvesting based on the time switching and NOMA techniques
- Energy-efficient algorithms for mode selection, resource allocation, and power control
- New services in 5G and 6G communications such as enhanced mobile broadband (eMBB), ultra-reliable low-latency communications (URLLC), massive machine type communications (mMTC), opportunistic Internet of Things (IoT) network, and software defined network (SDN) [43].

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# A Quality of Service Based Model for Supporting Mobile Secondary Users in Cognitive Radio Technology

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Neeta Nathani and G. C. Manna

Additional information is available at the end of the chapter

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## Abstract

Current wireless networks are characterized by a static spectrum allocation policy, where governmental agencies assign wireless spectrum to license holders on a long-term basis for large geographical regions. The operators claim that the spectrum bands for mobile operation are highly occupied. Even then, a significant amount of licensed spectrum remains underutilized. Cognitive radio senses the radio environment with a twofold objective: identify those subbands of the radio spectrum that are underutilized by the primary (i.e., legacy) users and providing the means for making those bands available for employment by secondary (i.e., unlicensed) users. For unlicensed communication, the Quality of Service parameters need to be considered. Quality of Service comprises of channel availability, accessibility, and maintainability. Assessment of vacant channels of licensed band in a geographical region is termed as availability. An analysis of the collected data lead to arrive at the conclusion that more than one-eighth part of resources of each band are nearly permanently vacant, which is enough to design in-band common control signaling methods for cognitive radio. Measurement result plot of vacant channels in cities with known population will help to assess availability of vacant channels for any city and hence, measurement complexity can be avoided. The strategy to occupy the vacant channels without disturbing the primary user operation is referred as accessibility (or selection). Accessibility of a channel is dependent on blocking probability (or Quality of Service) measured in duration of minutes instead of hours. Instantaneous blocking probability has been calculated based on current minute occupancy for all available channels as reference. A comprehensive prediction model is employed in the proposed work to compute the instantaneous blocking probability both on immediate minute occupancy basis and its preceding 60 min basis from time of request by SU. Validation through actual data establishes that channelized blocking probability estimation model has lower error value compared to estimation through prediction models of other researchers. It was also observed that hourly basis prediction model has constant blocking probability value during clock hour, whereas minutewise Grade of Service (GoS) prediction model addresses the local peak demand and hence leads to a stringent GoS estimation. On secondary user request for vacant channel, the cognitive radio network needs to evaluate

the expected holding time of the particular Secondary User and to ensure channel maintainability (or allocation), and it shall predict that the allotted channel shall be able to provide interruption-free service for holding time duration. Minutewise channel occupancy traffic is bumpy in nature; hence, the present work predicts call arrival rate using Holt Winter's method. Also, at the instant of SU channel request, the channel allocation processor inputs all PU channel status minutewise, calculates actual mean residual lifetime (MRL) in minutes for each vacant channel and selects the channel with highest predicted free time. A simulation program runs on data collected from mobile switch of cellular network, which creates pseudo-live environment for channel allocation. The present work has compared the mean residual lifetime (MRL) method with the other researchers using probabilistic method of channel allocation and MRL method has been established as more accurate. The selection and allocation process with defined blocking probability model has been verified retrieving big data from data warehouse.

**Keywords:** cognitive radio, Quality of Service, blocking probability, mean residual lifetime

## 1. Introduction

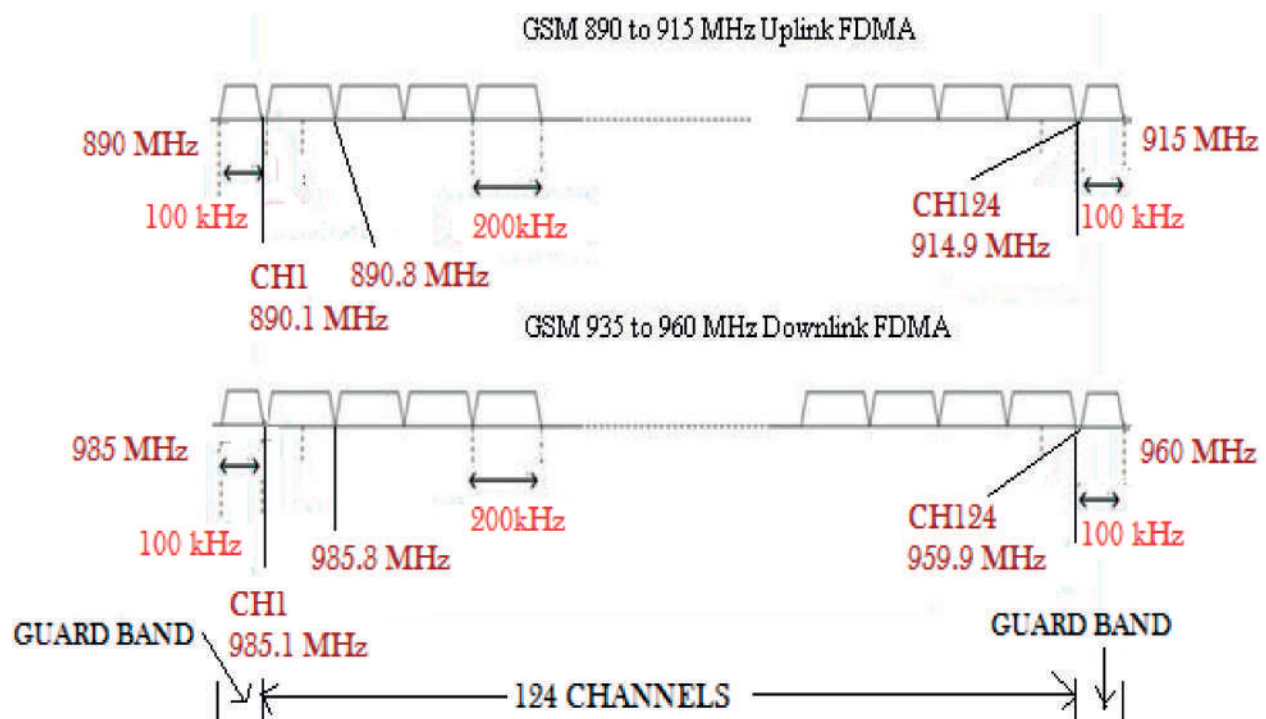
The first decade of the twenty-first century belongs to a new wireless world indeed! The rapid growth of cellphones, Wireless Local Area Networks (WLANs), and recently the wireless Internet, in short, wireless communication is driving the whole world toward greater integrity with wireless communications. By 2020, two-thirds i.e. 66% of total IP traffic shall be occupied by Wi-Fi and mobile devices whereas wired devices will account for 34% of IP traffic in access network [1]. Licensed bands claim to be heavily congested but different research work shows that the channels in the form of time and frequency are still available. In future, wireless networks may face the problem to find suitable frequency spectrum to fulfill the demands of future services. To solve the problem of inefficient use of spectrum utilization, a new concept is evolved known as cognitive radio (CR) [2]. In 1999, Joseph Mitola III introduced the concept of CR. This new concept of CR which is called as intelligent wireless communications is capable of sensing its environment and dynamically accessing the technology. It adjusts according to the input variations of statistical data for: (a) very dependable communication wherever and whenever needed; and (b) efficiently utilizing the radio spectrum [3, 4]. This can be done by sensing the radio environment: (i) by finding spectrum bands which are unused by the PU (i.e., licensed user), and (ii) by allocating unused bands of radio spectrum to SU requesting service [5]. The underused frequency bands of PUs are called as in-band spectrum holes [6]. The spectrum holes can be used to allocate the channels to CR user. However, to ensure efficient communication for such unlicensed communication, the Quality of Service (QoS) parameters need to be considered. Quality of Service can be defined as a set of specific requirements provided by a network of users, which are necessary in order to achieve the required functionality of a service.

Cognitive radio (CR) concept is based on vacant spectrum in licensed band which sometimes referred to as combination of channels. In telecommunication, a channel refers either to a physical transmission medium such as wire or to a logical connection over a multiplexed medium such as a radio channel. Global System for Mobile Communication-900 (GSM-900)

has been allocated an operational frequency from 890 to 960 MHz. GSM uses the frequency band 890–915 MHz for uplink (reverse) transmission, and for downlink (forward) transmission, it uses the frequency band 935–960 MHz. The available 25 MHz spectrum with 100 kHz guard band at two edges of the spectrum is divided into 124 Frequency Division Multiplexing (FDM) channels, each occupying 200 kHz as mentioned in **Figure 1**.

A large amount of information is transmitted between the MS and the BS, particularly, user information (voice or data) and control or signaling data. Depending on the type of information transmitted, different logical channels are used. These logical channels are mapped onto the physical channels (time slots). In the GSM system, a traffic channel will be made by a combination of a 200 kHz frequency channel and one of the eight time slots. For example, digital speech is carried by the logical channel called the traffic channel which during transmission can be allocated to a certain physical channel. There are two basic types of logical channels in GSM: traffic channels (TCHs) and control channels (CCHs). TCHs are used to carry either encoded speech or user data both in the uplink (UL) and downlink (DL) directions. The CCHs are used to communicate service between network equipment nodes.

Code Division Multiple Access (CDMA or Interim Standard-95) uses the frequency band 824–849 MHz for uplink (reverse) transmission, and for downlink (forward) transmission, it uses the frequency band 869–894 MHz. With CDMA, all users share the same 1.25 MHz wide carrier, but unique digital codes are used to differentiate subscribers. The codes are shared by both the mobile station and the base station and are called “pseudo-random code sequences”. Base stations in the system distinguish themselves from each other by transmitting different portions of the code at a given time. In other words, the base stations transmit time-offset versions of the same pseudo-random code.



**Figure 1.** Frequency channels in GSM-900.

The 3rd Generation Partnership Project (3GPP) and 3rd Generation Partnership Project 2 (3GPP2) have indicated that orthogonal frequency division multiple access (OFDMA) is the choice for the physical-layer transmission technology in 4G standards. In OFDM, usable bandwidth is divided into a large number of smaller bandwidths that are mathematically orthogonal using fast Fourier transforms (FFTs). Reconstruction of the band is performed by the inverse fast Fourier transform (IFFT).

CR utilizes both licensed and unlicensed bands for communication. Among these bands, GSM bands have less attenuation; their wavelength is more resilient to phenomenon like diffraction, absorption, scattering, etc. GSM channels use FDM-TDM technique with low bandwidth of 200 kHz and hence better scalable. In practice, technologies like CDMA, OFDM, etc. uses large bandwidth and total allotted spectrum and hence, only chance to obtain large bandwidth is the un-allotted part of the licensed band. Cognitive radio users (human and machine) are low end users (users in lower or lowest economic bracket or free public utility users with minimum vocabulary or information) and expected mainly to use voice, short message and short data services. These reasons make GSM is a good choice for cognitive radio implementation.

The QoS for mobile services which has been defined by ITU-T includes different parameters of QoS like availability, accessibility, maintainability and user perception of service. These parameters have been defined in context of cognitive radio in Section 2. Availability refers to detection of unused spectrum by way of signal strength measurements. In conventional method, the signal strength of a received radio signal is measured. The measurement setup used for detection of spectrum holes in CR along with the cognitive radio issues for availability has been discussed in detail in Section 4. The proposed work calculates blocking probabilities both on immediate minute occupancy basis and its preceding 60 min basis at the instant of service request by SU. The new concept of channelized blocking probability has been defined along with the general definitions of blocking probabilities in Section 5. An algorithm has been developed to accept SU service requests with different classified Quality of Service (QoS) from a set of PU channels. Allocation of a PU vacant channel on SU call request is done based on prediction that the channel will remain vacant for more than the assessed holding time of SU. The channel allocation model works based on inputs from (a) the channel call arrival rate prediction model and (b) SU holding time assessment model and has been discussed in Section 6. The model accepts collected data as input in time serial manner for running through residual lifetime based prediction model program. The comparison of proposed work has also been done and its results and conclusion has been discussed in Section 6.

## 2. Quality of Service

Quality of Service (QoS) is the capability of a network to offer better service to selected network traffic over specific underlying technologies [7, 8]. The various parameters for QoS are:

- i. **Availability:** The operator maintains a dynamic list of available channels. When the user wants to communicate, operator is liable to assign one or more communication channel to the user as per his demand and within tolerable specified time limit. In case



of telecom service, this delay is maximum 6 s but usually, the delay noticed is less than a second. This function is referred to as availability.

- ii. **Accessibility:** When the operator assigns channels to the user, the user equipment (UE) should be capable to use the allocated spectrum to the extent possible. For example, when a 200 kHz channel is allocated for some time  $\tau$ , the user handset should be able to communicate at highest modulation supported by operator and RF condition. This phenomenon is called accessibility. Proper handshaking shall take place between UE and access network (AN) before establishing communication at acceptable speed by both ends.
- iii. **Maintainability:** In mobile communication, as the user is mobile, there is a continuous change in environment and RF condition. The operator has to take into consideration various parameters like speed of communication, handover, etc. for proper maintenance of established communication. This is known as maintainability.
- iv. **User perception of service:** It is the ability to deliver the service meeting the user's quality of expectations. It is measured by the customer satisfaction using access equipment behavior audit, drive test for mobile as pseudo customer and actual satisfaction through interrogation by customer survey specialists.

### 3. Availability

Over the last few years, a lot of research has undergone on spectrum sensing (SS) techniques for the detection of spectrum holes [9]. Energy detection (ED) approach, also known as radiometry or periodogram, is a popular technique for spectrum sensing due to low computational and implementation complexities [10]. The conventional SS method includes waveform-based sensing (WBS), matched filter-based sensing (MFBS) and cyclostationary-based sensing (CBS). WBS is a coherent method that correlates the received signal with the previous patterns available in database [11]. This technique is susceptible to synchronization errors which can cause false detection of primary users [10]. MFBS is the best detecting method where the received signal is interrelated with the transmitted signal [12]. The periodic characteristics of the received signals i.e., pilot sequences, carrier tones, etc. is explored by CBS technique [13]. It requires less time to achieve high processing gain due to coherent detection. In MFBS technique, it is assumed that it has the previous information of the primary's signal. It indicates that method is not suitable in some bands as some of the communication technologies are not operating with the previous information. On the other hand, CBS is unfeasible for signals that don't show cyclostationarity properties. CBS has high computational complexity [14]. Energy-based sensing (EBS) is the easiest SS method [15, 16]. This technique does not require any previous knowledge of primary user's signal but its performance is less when noise's variance is unknown or at the higher side [17]. Energy-based sensing based on sub-Nyquist sampling shall be beneficial as per as sensing duration is concerned [18]. The performance of the EBS is characterized where the PUs reflects a constant characteristic during the sensing period as well as during the sensing period where PUs can alter their ON/OFF status, thus, affecting the spectrum sensing decision [19]. A brief comparison various SS techniques is enlisted in **Table 1** as follows [10, 20]:

Spectrum Sensing Method	Characteristics
ED	1. Low complexity. 2. No primary knowledge required. 3. Unreliable in low SNRs.
MFBS	1. Requires prior knowledge of waveform patterns of all primary users in the various spectrum bands. 2. Noise variance and uncertainty makes this technique unreliable as CR devices are unable to detect transmitted signal from primary users. 3. High power consumption
WBS	1. Requires prior knowledge of synchronization. 2. Is susceptible to synchronization errors which can cause false detection of primary users.
CBS	1. Robustness to the uncertainty in noise power. 2. Improves the overall CR throughput 3. High computational complexity.

Table 1. Comparison of different spectrum sensing methods.

In mobile communication, primary user occupied channels are known to network. So, a new call is eligible to occupy any of the vacant channels. In contrast, in cognitive radio network, a dynamic spectrum management is used which shall include information about the traffic pattern of the channels occupied by primary users at an instant. Basically, a CR should characterize whether the traffic pattern is static or dynamic and based on that it should use different methods for idle time prediction before selecting a channel.

Much of the spectrum below 50 GHz is available for low-powered unlicensed use. Based on environmental variations, the utilization of the licensed band is approximately 15–85% [21]. The actual utilization of mobile communication spectrum in licensed band has not yet been taken into consideration. The variation of channel utilization for various types of cities has also not been studied. These studies may be very useful to perfectly recognize the frequency



channels with no active or low occupancy so that the CR technology can be successfully deployed. Few such studies has been mentioned below:

### **3.1. Vacant channels in Barcelona, Spain**

A spectrum measurement campaign for a frequency band of 75 MHz to 3GHz was conducted through a survey in an outdoor urban environment for a continuous period of 48 h at Barcelona, Spain [22]. The six consecutive frequency bands of 500 MHz were formulated and it was found that only 22.57% of the whole frequency range was utilized.

### **3.2. Vacant channels in Singapore**

To find the spectrum occupancy for the frequency range from 80 MHz to 5.85 GHz, another survey was conducted at Institute for Infocomm Research's building in Singapore for 24-h over 12 weekday periods [23]. It was observed that the average utilization of frequency band was only 4.54%.

### **3.3. Vacant channels in Limestone Maine**

At the Loring Commerce Centre, a similar survey was conducted during a normal work week for 72 h for the frequency band of 100 MHz to 3 GHz [24]. In the survey, it was found that only 17% of the average spectrum is utilized during the measurement period. The ISM bands and mobile licensed bands are partly utilized and the remaining part of the spectrum band resembles noise.

### **3.4. Vacant channels in India**

In India, the RFs are being used for different types of services like mobile communication, broadcasting, radio navigation, satellite communication, defense communication, etc. The wireless equipment are developed and manufactured based on the spectrum utilization in the country as decided by the National Frequency Allocation Plan (NFAP). The various frequency spectrums allotted to mobile communication services is shown in **Table 2** [25, 26].

CR technology has been developed to dynamically access and release channels in licensed bands. There is a scope of getting the unutilized channels in licensed spectrum with or without having a stable infrastructure for CR. Thus it is expected that at zero cost public authorities providing public utility services may be authorized to operate over unutilized spectrum even though licensed. However, such public utility service providers are very limited. Field test should be essentially conducted for the evaluation of quasi-permanently unused channels for use of in-band common control signaling purposes.

#### ***3.4.1. Measurement setup***

To dynamically measure the occupancy rate of the PUs and to calculate the quantum of vacant channels available for CR use, a measurement setup called drive test equipment is used that collects data on a moving vehicle. A motor vehicle containing mobile radio network air

Technology used	Band and Channel Width	Technology Bandwidth	*Occupancy/ Remarks
CDMA	824-849MHz; 869-894MHz; Channel B/W 1.25MHz FDD; 20 channels	25+25	50% vacant
GSM 900MHz	890-915MHz; 935-960MHz; 124 channels of 200 kHz spacing	25+25	Experimentally observed results and empirical relationship (depicted in figure 2) shows that 30% of GSM channels are vacant; whereas 12% of each RF is required to manage logical 7 channels.
GSM 1800 MHz	1710-1785MHz; 1805-1880MHz; 374 channels	75+75	60% vacant channels; actual to find
WCDMA	1920-1980MHz; 2110-2170MHz	60+60	75% vacant channels
Wimax & 4G	2500-2690MHz	190	77% vacant channels
Wimax (fixed)	3400-3600MHz	200	90% vacant channels

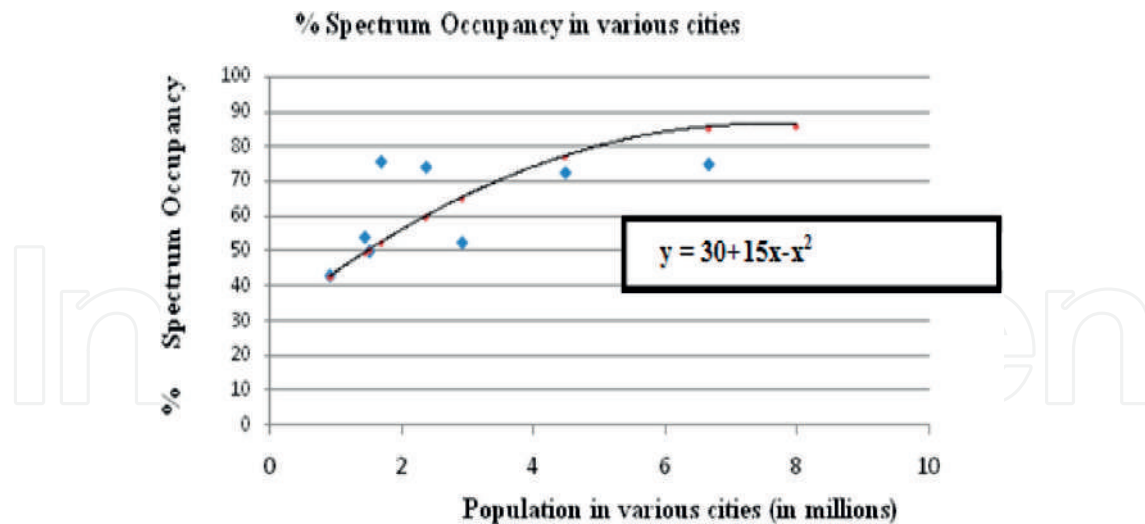
\* As per available information.

**Table 2.** Licensed spectrum of various wireless technologies.

interface measurement equipment is used in the drive test. The equipment measures different types of virtual and physical parameters of mobile cellular service in a given geographical region. Data relating to the network itself is collected by drive test equipment, radio frequency scanner information, services running on the network such as voice or data services and GPS information to provide location logging. The hardware and software used in the setup includes data cable and global positioning system (GPS), digital radio frequency (RF) scanner, laptop with charger and USB hub license dongle for TEMS, engineering handsets with 4 (2G/3G) SIMs of different operators mounted simultaneously and cable terminal, cell site database and link budget, clutter diagram from Google website, MapInfo software. In the setup, data collection software is installed in the laptop where mobile set is used along with GPS. Data related to signal strength, downlink and uplink frequency etc. is collected by the mobile whereas GPS collects the data of latitude and longitude of each point. All the information is stored with its geographical locations along with their respective time and date.

### 3.4.2. Data acquisition for availability of vacant channels

Data was collected for spectrum utilization measurements in GSM 900 MHz band in an outdoor environment of other cities viz. Bhopal, Ranchi, Patna, Dibrugarh, Shillong & Port Blair with population in the range of 1.5 million to 6.6 million as per 2011 census. The study reveals that there is 74.19% spectrum occupancy in lower band in Bhopal, while in Ranchi it is only 52.42% as



**Figure 2.** Population spectrum graph.

it switches to upper band where it has spectrum occupancy of 83%. In the lower band of Patna, the measurements indicate that there is 75.8% spectrum occupancy. Shillong, the capital of Meghalaya state of India is located at 25.57°N and 91.88°E on a plateau in the eastern part of the state. The population of the city is 1.43 million where spectrum occupancy is 54%. Port Blair located at 11° 40' N and 92° 46' E is the capital city of Andaman and Nicobar Islands in India. The next survey was conducted at Port Blair which is the municipal council in the southern part of Andaman, a part of India's Union Territory. Being the lowest populated area, it has spectrum occupancy of 43%. It is evident that most of the bands in lower band of various cities are quasi-permanently vacant. These vacant channels can be used for control signaling in CR communication.

### 3.4.3. Empirical formula for channel availability

The spectrum occupancy of eight cities of India is represented in **Figure 2**. It is shown in the diagram that there is 30% occupancy for the most sub-urban area with less population. For population between 1 million to 4 million, the increase is almost linear. In the range of population between 4 million to 7 million, it is observed that the occupancy reaches a saturation level. Also, with projected expansion of highly populated city core areas to 8 million, occupancy level is projected to reach up to 86%, leaving a clear space of 14% of channels for CR use [25].

As population increases, there will be requirement of more number of channels and this need can be managed through effective optimization methods. This can be mathematically calculated as negative requirement of channels and graphically expressed as saturation. Due to continuous growth in population, operators can request access for TCHs from higher frequency band and consequently, the occupancy at lower frequency band is reduced. Thus, the channel occupancy with growth in population can empirically be given as:

$$y = 30 + 15x - x^2 \quad (1)$$

where  $x$  = size of population in millions,  $y$  = channel occupancy percentage in lower frequency band.

Thus, it is found that 20% or more of the licensed bandwidth is almost practically unused even in a saturated market environment. In other words, more than 1/8th part of all bands were not in use which closely matches the need of one signaling channel for 7 traffic channels. This is more than the channel demand of 12% of the whole band to get access to the whole of the bandwidth at a time by cognitive radio and is adequate to take additional MAC level overhead required for CR. There is no urgent requirement of these channels by the licensed operators, whereby it can be carefully allotted as common control channel for CR purpose. Further, to doubly enhance protection of common control channel, a disaster recovery common control channel may be designated. It will hold the replica of allotments and processing status of CR Primary Common Control Channel. The above findings for common control channel are highly dynamic and sensed information may be able to provide user mobility in a most competitive environment at an economically affordable cost. The approximation of channel occupancy is possible depending upon the population and hence CR technology planners can propose a long term plan for efficient use of it for public benefits.

#### 4. Accessibility

As per as the need of QoS is concerned, CR networks should have the ability to choose the best frequency band for use [27]. Spectrum decision is based on the channel characteristics and operations of PUs. Spectrum decision follows two steps: (i) every spectrum band is distinguished based on the statistical information of PUs and the local observations of CR users [28]. The available spectrum holes represent different characteristics that differ over time. (ii) After the available spectrum bands are characterized by considering spectrum characteristics and the QoS requirements, the most appropriate spectrum band should be selected. To minimize capacity variation, spectrum decision method is used which incorporates minimum variance-based spectrum decision (MVSD) scheme. To maximize the total network capacity, a maximum capacity-based spectrum decision (MCSD) scheme is used [29]. Accordingly a database is maintained where the data is purified based on signal to noise ratio (SNR), vacant holding time, etc. which is then used for channel allocation to SU.

After the holes are detected and best selected in licensed band, the next function of the CR user includes accessing the channel which is known as spectrum sharing. The wireless channel needs the synchronization of transmission attempts between CR users. The spectrum sharing aims to address four aspects:

- a. As per the architecture, the classification can be distributed or centralized. In centralized spectrum sharing, a central entity controls the procedures of spectrum allocation and access. In distributed spectrum sharing, local or probably global policies that are independently executed by each node decide the spectrum allocation and access [30].
- b. Based on allocation behavior, spectrum access can be cooperative or non-cooperative. In cooperative (or collaborative) allocation, the interference measurements of each node is exploited in such a way that it considers the effect of the communication of one node on other nodes. In non-cooperative allocation, only a single node is considered. To promote cooperation among conflicting decision makers, efficient spectrum sharing schemes



such as game theory have been used for more efficient, flexible, and fair spectrum usage [31–34].

- c. Based on the access technology, it is of two types: overlay and underlay. In overlay spectrum sharing, nodes access the network using the spectrum band that has not been used by PUs so as to minimize interference to the primary network. In underlay spectrum sharing, the spread spectrum techniques are exploited such that the transmission of a CR node is regarded as noise by PUs [35].
- d. Spectrum sharing methods are concentrated on two types of solution: where spectrum sharing can be within a CR network, which is called intranetwork spectrum sharing; and among multiple coexisting CR networks, which is called internetwork spectrum sharing.

#### 4.1. Daily traffic behavior

The conventional telecom uses hourly prediction for estimating mobile communication traffic. In hourly prediction, peak time is not determined neither in the beginning of the hour nor at the end of hour. The clock hour is not authentic as it does not tell exactly about the peak time at which the traffic was maximum. Hourly traffic data is insufficient to decide whether a call can be initiated at a particular instant of time. Thus, it becomes necessary to study minutewise traffic pattern. Minutewise occupancy data is computed on hourly basis for various cells of varying channel numbers, e.g., each cell with 7/14/28/60 channels for 1/2/4/8 radio frequencies (RFs) of GSM system to assess the traffic behavior of PU. There are channels with same number of RFs which are lightly loaded at some places as well as highly loaded at some other locations.

Conventionally, a telecom operator analyzes the total traffic on hourly basis and identifies the busy hour where total traffic is maximum. Hourly data arranged on weekly basis does not give a clear picture of the peak hour as it contains many peaks. The traffic variations within a clock hour are not predictable in weekly analysis. Thus, data arranged on daily basis is taken to estimate the behavior of hourly traffic. For example, the minutewise collected occupancy data was taken on hourly basis for 50 cells of different channel numbers. **Figure 3** depicts daily occupancy pattern for the locations with 60 channels (8 RFs) and differently loaded at various traffic places [36, 37]. The results are similar for other RF counts also. The figure indicates double heaps in the channel occupancy. The heap pattern shows near parabolic nature from 07:00 to 15:00 and 17:00 to 22:00 h.

Usually, peak traffic is bell-shaped around peak few minutes. Hence, the busy hour may or may not include peak traffic minute which is of serious concern for prediction of channel availability. The clock hour is not authentic as it does not exactly tell about the peak time at which the traffic was maximum. The PU busy hour is redefined in context of CR as 1 h during which peak channel occupancy occurs and calculates the growth and decay of traffic 30 min each around peak traffic minutes.

#### 4.2. Grade of service and blocking probability

The determination of QoS provided by a particular network configuration is required for an efficient design of communication networks. The Grade of Service (GoS) is a benchmark used

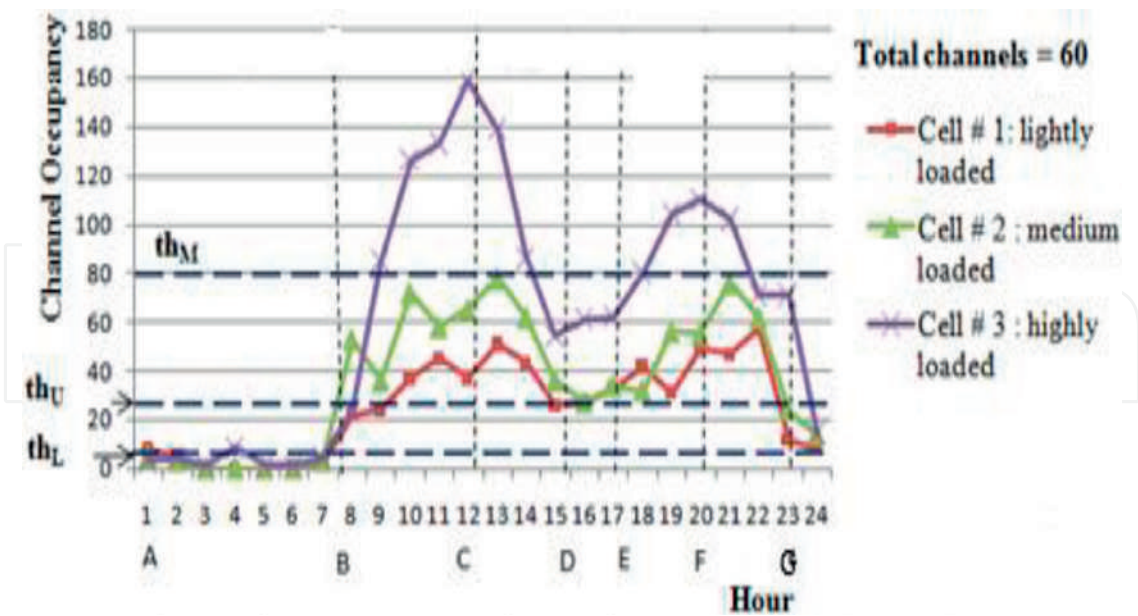


Figure 3. Daily channel occupancy pattern for three cells with 60 channels.

to define the desired performance of a particular cellular communication system by specifying a desired probability of a mobile subscriber obtaining channel access given a specific number of channels available in the system. The concept of trunking allows a large number of mobile subscribers to share the relatively small number of available channels in a cell by providing access to each mobile subscriber, on demand, from a pool of available channels.

Cellular communication systems are examples of trunked radio systems in which each mobile subscriber is allocated a channel on a per-call request basis. Upon termination of the call, the previously occupied channel is immediately returned to the pool of available channels. When a mobile subscriber requests service and in case all of the radio channels are already busy, the incoming subscriber call is blocked, or denied access to the system. In some communication systems, a queue may be used to hold the requesting mobile subscribers until a channel becomes available.

The GoS is a measure of the ability of a mobile subscriber to access a cellular system during the busiest hour. The busy hour is based upon the subscriber's demand for the service from the system at the busiest hour during a week, month or year. It is necessary to estimate the maximum required capacity in terms of available channels and to allocate the proper number of channels in order to meet the GoS. GoS is typically specified as the probability that a call is blocked, or the probability of a call experiencing a delay greater than the predefined queuing time. A call which cannot be completed at the time of call request made by a mobile subscriber is referred to as a blocked call or lost call. This may happen due to channel congestion or non-availability of a free channel. In other words, GoS is a measure of channel congestion which is specified as the probability of a call being blocked, or the probability of a call being delayed beyond a specified time.

When the offered traffic exceeds the maximum capacity of the system in terms of the allocated number of channels, the carried traffic becomes limited due to the limited number of channels.



The maximum traffic is the total number of channels in Erlangs. Let us consider a cellular system that is designed for a GoS of 2% blocking. This implies that the channel allocations for cell sites are designed in such a way so that 2 out of 100 calls requested by mobile subscribers will be blocked due to channel congestion during the busiest hour.

Practically, there are two types of trunked cellular systems. The first type of trunked cellular system offers no queuing for call requests, which is known as “Erlang B” system. This means that for every mobile subscriber making a service request; it is assumed that there is no set up time to a requesting mobile subscriber. He mobile subscriber is given immediate access to a channel if it is available. If no channels are available, the requesting mobile subscriber is blocked without access to the system and is free to try again later. This type of trunking is called “blocked calls cleared or blocked calls lost”. It assumes that calls arrive as determined by a Poisson distribution.

In performance evaluation of cellular systems or telephone networks, Erlang B formula is a formula for estimating the call blocking probability for a cell (or a sector, if sectoring is used) which has N “trunked” channels and the amount of (“offered”) traffic is A Erlang [38]:

$$B_B(N, A) = \frac{\frac{A^N}{N!}}{\sum_{i=0}^N \frac{A^i}{i!}} \quad (2)$$

where,  $i = 1$  to  $N$  denotes the steady-state number of busy servers. It is directly used to determine the probability B that call requests will be blocked by the system because all channels are currently used.

The second type of trunked cellular system is called “blocked calls delayed” and its measure of GoS is defined as the probability that a call is blocked after waiting a specific length of time in a queue. In this system, a queue is provided to hold the calls requested which are blocked. If a channel is not available immediately, the call request may be delayed until a channel becomes available. Customers who find all N servers busy join a queue and wait as long as necessary to receive service. The probability of a call not having immediate access to a channel is determined by the “Erlang C” formula [38]. If no channels are immediately available, the call is delayed. The Erlang C formula is expressed in terms of blocking probability as:

$$B_C(N, A) = \frac{\frac{A^N}{N! \left(1 - \frac{A}{N}\right)}}{\sum_{i=0}^N \frac{A^i}{i!} + \frac{A^N}{N! \left(1 - \frac{A}{N}\right)}} \quad (3)$$

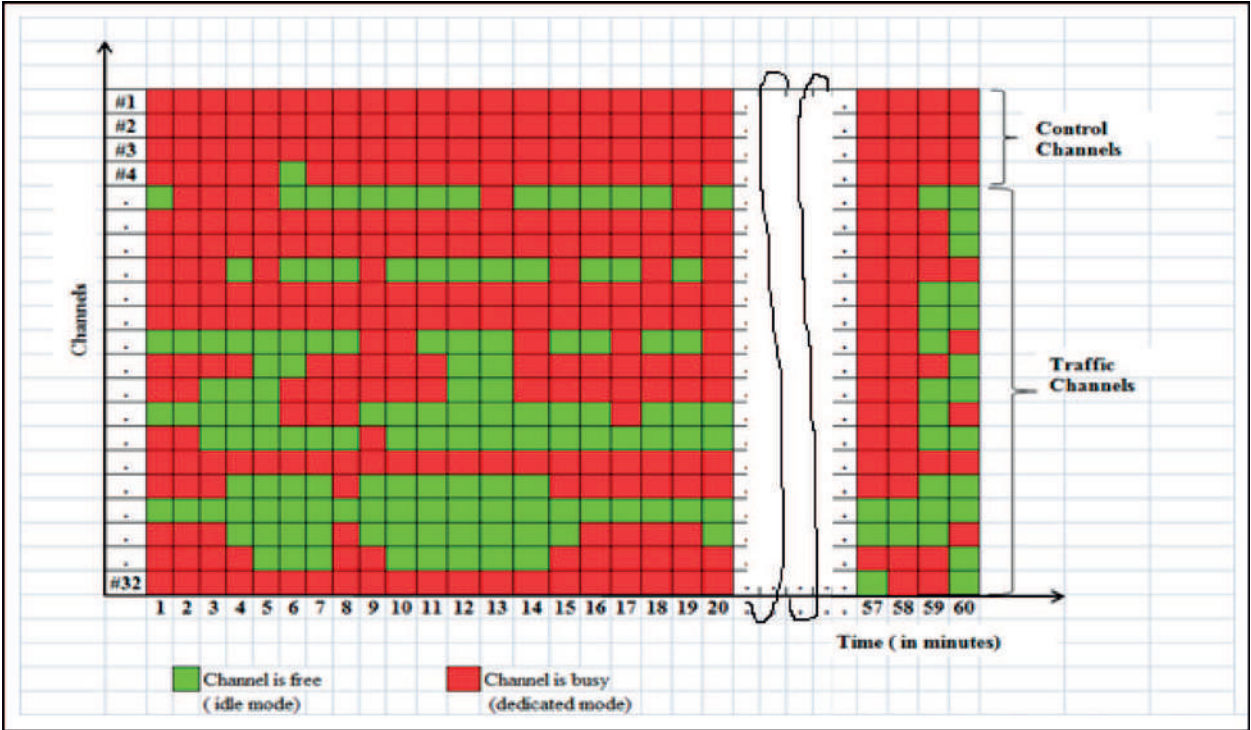
where, N = number of trunks or service channels, A = offered load.

#### 4.3. Limitation of Erlang traffic models

The basic unit of channel busy/idle status is recorded for each frequency and each time slot. All the channel activities (busy/idle) during each time slot and frequency correction are monitored through different counters. In addition, user friendly graphical user interface (GUI) is available from where the data can be collected and stored in backup support.

Conventionally, the data related occupancy of channel is collected on hourly basis from the counters like m15, m16, m25, m17, m18, m23, m147, and m148. Telecom occupancy related data is stored in several counters of base station controller (BSC). To get secondwise accurate data, an interrupt driven learning mechanism is required which is practically not used in telecom network because the requirement is purely academic. In earlier telecommunication, very few processors were used in the radio access logic boards. The speed of working of processors was much less as compared to present day. Further, minutewise transfer of counter data to a central computer adds to transport overhead and hence avoided. Presently, the data speed is available in processors along with high speed links. Hence, capturing of minutewise data is now feasible. Thus, the counters are read every minute for free/occupied status. A scale below minutes was not explored due to the reason that the measurement traffic is a great appreciable part of the total signaling traffic. Thus, disastrous situation cannot be introduced in a live system.

The data for individual subscriber was taken offline from Billing Center at extreme leisure hour for few subscribers. It was expected that a similar set of users shall be the SUs also. For example, the minutewise occupancy of 32 channels during a busy hour has been taken into consideration and is shown in **Figure 4** which helps to determine the availability of spectrum holes. The red color cell indicates that the channel is busy or in dedicated mode and cannot be used for channel allocation to CR. The green color cell indicates that the channel is free and can be used for CR use after ensuring its QoS parameters. The parameters like call arrival rate and user holding time of PUs is predicted for the purpose of utilization of channel by SUs.



**Figure 4.** Minutewise occupancy chart for 32 channels in a day during busy hour.

#### 4.4. Modified blocking probability

Blocking probability can be estimated by channel occupancy during last clock hour, e.g., 9 am–10 am at 10 am, 10 am–11 am at 11 am, etc., as in classical teletraffic theory and this estimation has been further improved through prediction models. In present chapter, clock has been considered only for hourly prediction purpose. For channel allocation, considering the instant of channel request as origin, an observation hour is defined in 2 more ways viz., (a) each hour has been composed of 60 immediately preceding minutes or channelized minutes, (b) current minute, or instantaneous minute.

For a lost call system, the GoS for CR shall be measured by using modified Poisson's model, as proposed in this chapter is given by the equation:

$$P(c, N) = 1 - \sum_{k=0}^{c-1} \frac{N^k}{k!} e^{-N} \quad (4)$$

where,  $k = 0$  to  $(c-1)$  with  $c$  = total number of trunked channels,  $N = N_p + N_s$ ,  $N_p$  = count of PUs in the system,  $N_s = \sigma N_p + \text{offset}$  = count of SUs in the system, where,  $0 < \sigma \leq 1$ . A portion of the PU,  $\sigma$  (known as SU factor) can be considered for the calculation of the blocking probability of a secondary call combined with PUs traffic in the system. Also,  $0 < \text{offset} < 1$  such that  $N_s$  is an integer of higher value. These values of GoS help to determine whether the channel allocation to SU shall be successful or fail.

Consider a network with 'n' licensed channels ( $j = 1$  to  $n$ ) where the wireless nodes are static. A CRN is located within the licensed coverage area of licensed operator. The CRNs are equipped with spectrum sensor devices. The sensors monitor and report channel states to the central node via dedicated channels. Also, the outcome of the sensor state can be represented by binary signal  $\{0,1\}$ , where '0' represents the vacant state and '1' represents the occupied state of observed channels at an instant of time,  $t$ . All the channels are sensed assuming that the sensing time is very less than the duration of idle and busy time. The history database is periodically updated with the new sensing information. The collected database of different channels can be used to compute the different blocking probabilities as described below to estimate GoS.

##### 4.4.1. Predicted blocking probability (PBP)

The probability computed by autoregressive moving average (ARMA) model that is a mathematical model of the persistence, or autocorrelation, in a time series is called as PBP. In ARMA model, a time series is observed for total number of calls ( $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_T$ ). To predict the total number of calls in  $d^{\text{th}}$  day, forecast is done by minimizing the mean squared error (MSE), i.e.,  $\text{Min.}_{y'_{T+d}} E((y_{T+k} - y'_{T+d})^2)$ . In that case, the best forecast is the mean of  $y_{T+d}$ , conditional on the information up to  $T$ , ( $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_T$ ):

$$a = y'_{T+d} = E(y_{T+d} | y_1, y_2, \dots, y_T). \quad (5)$$

The BS monitoring system records the minutewise channel occupancy of licensed users for continuously 7 days of a week. The predicted value of offered load during the 8th day

is calculated by using data of total calls of a particular hour for 7 days (i.e., T = 1 to 7) using ARMA model and has been depicted in **Table 3** [39]. The predicted value of total calls of 8th day of a particular hour is taken for computation of blocking probability using the formula:

$$PBP = \frac{\frac{a^c}{c!}}{\sum_{i=0}^c \frac{a^i}{i!}}$$
(6)

where i = 0 to c = total channels in the system.

4.4.2. Instantaneous blocking probability (IBP)

The blocking probability provided by the system at an instant of time, (t + 1), is called as IBP. The IBP is on every minute basis as shown in **Table 4** [39]. In this case, the offered load, a, is defined as,  $a = \sum_{j=1}^n a_j$  = number of channels busy during the minute of observation, where,  $a_j = 1$ , if channel is busy &  $a_j = 0$  if channel is free of j = 1 to n channels at that particular instant of time. The instantaneous blocking probability at time t, is defined as:

$$IBP = \frac{\frac{a^c}{c!}}{\sum_{i=0}^c \frac{a^i}{i!}} \text{ for } c = n$$
(7)

where, i = 0 to c = total channels in the system.

PREDICTION OF OFFERED TRAFFIC FOR CHANNELS j=1 to n								
HOUR →	1:00AM	2:00AM	.	.	.	22:00PM	23:00PM	00:00AM
DAY ↴								
#1	1243	1587	-	-	-	-	-	1325
#2	1453	1325	-	-	-	-	-	1243
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
#7	1000	1106	-	-	-	-	-	1106
#8*	1102*	1258*	-	-	-	-	-	1151*
*Predicted offered load								

Table 3. Prediction of offered load in a particular hour using ARMA model.

CALCULATION OF OFFERED TRAFFIC AT AN INSTANT OF TIME $t+1$ FOR CHANNELS $j=1$ to $n$											
TIME (in minutes)	1	2	.	.	.	.	.	t	** $t+1$	.	3600
CHANNEL NO.↓											
#1	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	<div><div>1. INITIALIZE</div><div>2. START</div><div>3. Press CTRL &amp; PAUSE</div><div>4. IBP</div><div>5. PROCESS</div><div>6. CBP</div></div>		
#2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
#3	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	0			
#4	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1			
#5	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0			
#6	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1			
#7	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	1			
#8	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0			
**Estimation of IBP at an instant of time ( $t+1$ )											
Active-X Command buttons for programme control											

**Table 4.** Calculation of offered load at an instant of time  $t = (t + 1)$ . (a snapshot taken from software).

#### 4.4.3. Channelized blocking probability (CBP)

The blocking probability provided by the system at an instant of time  $(t + 1)$  considering the traffic of the preceding 60 min is called as CBP and is depicted in **Table 5** [39]. The offered load in this case is defined as,

$a = \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{t=60}^t a_t$ ; where,  $a_j = 1$ , if channel is busy &  $a_j = 0$  if channel is free for  $j = 1$  to  $n$  channels. The channelized blocking probability is defined as:

$$CBP = \frac{\frac{a^c}{c!}}{\sum_{i=0}^c \frac{a^i}{i!}} \quad (8)$$

where,  $i = 0$  to  $c = 60 \times n =$  total channels in the system.

The values of CBP and IBP helps to decide the probability of success whenever a SU initiates a request. The data has been chosen at peak busy hours for 50 channels and minutewise occupancy for 300 min calls is practically taken for estimation purpose for various trunk servers ranging from 7 to 50 channels. The CBP as shown in **Table 5** can be computed by the program developed by the author.

**Figure 5** is plotted for comparison of CBP and PBP for consecutive 4 h. It is evident that the standard deviation of PBP is fixed with respect to IBP but the standard deviation of CBP matches with that of IBP during the busy hour which shows that the CBP is better than PBP [39]. The CBP is much more prominent during the peak hours where random variation of instantaneous values is more.



ESTIMATION OF OFFERED TRAFFIC CONSIDERING PRECEDING 60 MINUTES DATA FOR CHANNELS $j=1$ to $n$											
Time → (in minutes)	1	2	.	.	t-60	.	.	t	**t+1	.	3600
CHANNEL NO. ↓											
#1	1	0	.	.	1	.	.	1	1		
#2	0	0	.	.	0	.	.	1	0		
.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.		
.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.		
.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.		
#50	1	0	.	.	1	.	.	1	1		
**Estimation of CBP at time (t+1) based on immediate past 60 minutes											

**Table 5.** Calculation of offered load based on immediate preceding 60 min data.

#### 4.4.4. Error estimation of blocking probability

The error is estimated by the computation of standard deviation between IBP and PBP, and IBP and CBP. The standard deviation of the sample is the degree to which individual data within the sample differ from the sample mean. Since PBP is fixed for a clock hour, the error between IBP and PBP is given by:

$$e_{pbp} = \frac{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^p (x_i - x')^2}}{p} \quad (9)$$

where  $x$  = value of IBP,  $x'$  = predicted value of PBP with  $i = 1$  to  $p$  = total observation,  $p = 60$  in present case.

As CBP varies minutewise, the error between IBP and CBP is given by:

$$e_{cbp} = \frac{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^p (x_i - x_i')^2}}{p} \quad (10)$$

where,  $x_i'$  = estimated value of CBP. The present chapter proves that  $e_{pbp} - e_{cbp} \geq 0$ .

It is evident from **Table 6** [39] that as the number of trunk server increases, error between IBP and CBP {calculated using equation (Eq.(10))} is less than that of error between IBP and PBP



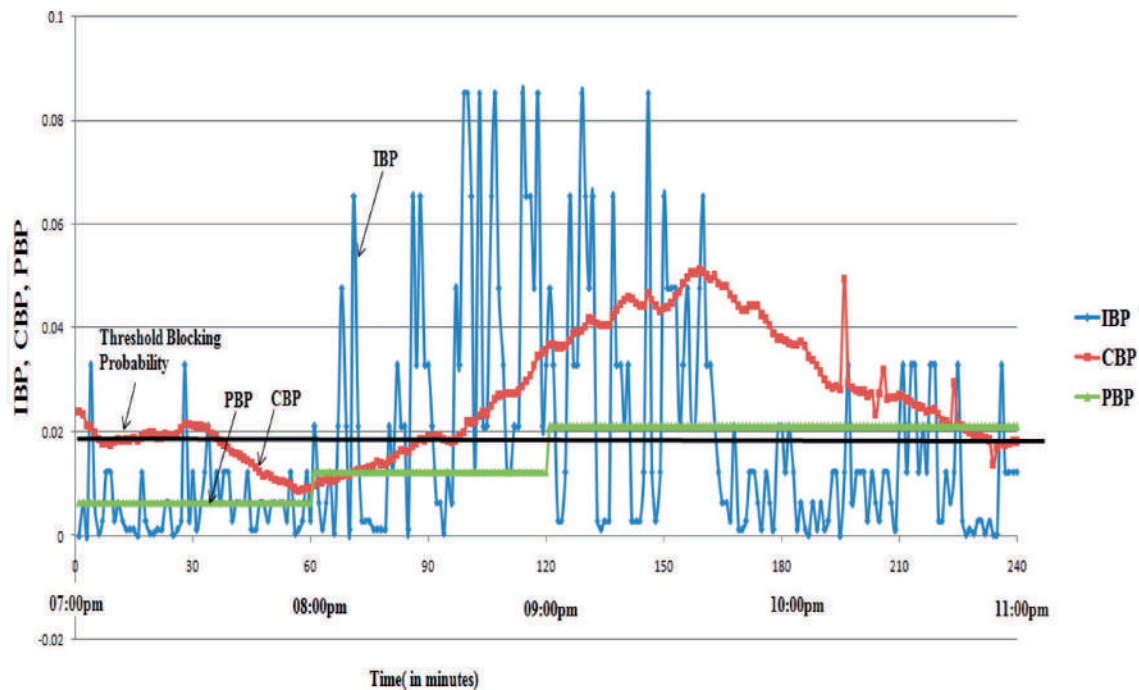


Figure 5. IBP, CBP and PBP vs. time in minutes in the system with trunk servers (c) = 22.

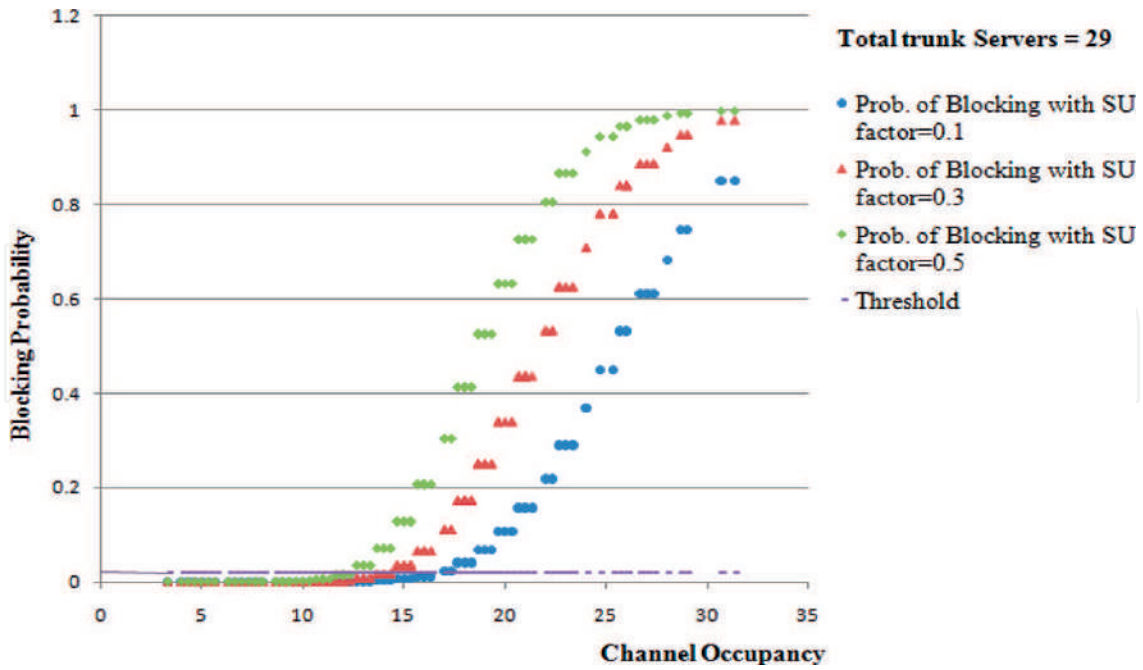
Trunk Servers	Std. Dev. ( IBP & PBP )	Std. Dev. ( IBP & CBP )	Difference
7	0.0139	0.0118	0.0021
15	0.0046	0.004	0.0005
22	0.0017	0.0018	-0.0001
29	0.0014	0.0013	0.0001
36	0.0007	0.0007	0
43	0.0003	0.0003	0
50	0.0003	0.0003	0

Table 6. Difference between standard deviation of IBP & CBP vs. IBP & PBP.

{calculated using equation (Eq.(9))}. Thus, the estimation of CBP is a better method than the estimation of PBP. The eligible list of channels available for use by SU can be formed where the channels have blocking probability  $\leq 0.02$ .

#### 4.4.5. Estimation of blocking probability at a particular instant of offer

Whenever a SU initiates a call, at an instant, the blocking probability P from Eq. (4) is measured at that instant for all channels in the cell. The value of blocking probability must be less



**Figure 6.** Call blocking probability with trunk servers ( $c = 29$ ) using Poisson’s model.

than some pre-determined value. An observation for different channels was made with  $c = 29, 44, 60$  servers to assess the blocking probability and is shown in **Figure 6** [37].

It is observed from **Figure 6** that when the primary channel occupancy  $< 50\%$  then the CR-BS is capable of providing mobile channel to the SU with blocking probability less than 0.02 which is equivalent to wireline. The channels which have blocking probability less than 50% are eligible used for allocation to SUs.

## 5. Maintainability

After capturing the best available spectrum by CR, the user may change its operating frequency band(s) that may require modifications to the operation parameters, based on the PU activity. This process is referred to as spectrum mobility. The purpose of the spectrum mobility management in CRN is to ensure smooth and fast transition that may lead to minimum performance degradation during a spectrum handoff.

### 5.1. Estimation of channel specific lifetime

CR users and CR infrastructure are essentially the identical as licensed authorized user system. But CR systems shall follow the guideline that: (a) only free channels of PU are to be used and when PU is active, the channels shall be returned to PU immediately, (b) it will not create any noise to PU system. Thus, architecture of SU should have some extra logic than PU system, otherwise they are similar. Therefore, there is a necessity to understand complete system architecture of PU along with PU traffic behavior for making conclusions about CR traffic handling effectively. This can be done by using prediction models.

The parameters like call arrival rate and user holding time of PUs can be predicted for the purpose of utilization of channel by SUs. The probability that the channel would be accessible for a given time period is evaluated according to the prediction or estimation results. The evaluated probability is then compared with some threshold, according to which, SUs can decide whether to use this channel or not. For the purpose of prediction, the study has been arranged in two broad divisions viz. (a) daily traffic analysis for long term prediction; (b) minutewise traffic analysis for immediate prediction of availability of vacant channels.

#### 5.1.1. Long-term prediction model

Primary channel is allotted by the network operator according to demand. The channel occupancy is recorded during each hour. The traffic pattern of each channel is seasonal in terms of daily traffic. The present study uses long term prediction model to compute call arrival rate of the PU. It takes the weekly values of call arrival rate during a particular hour as an input and predicts its weekly values for the same hour. These predicted values can be used to assess the hourly traffic of PU, based on which SU channel allocation is done.

##### 5.1.1.1. Seasonal auto regressive integrated moving average (SARIMA) model

In SARIMA, weekly data of each cell was gathered and organized on hourly basis and one particular hour was selected and analyzed. SARIMA model was used to forecast call arrival rate of weekly data for a specific hour depending on monthly monitored data of the same hour. The prediction of traffic pattern for a week follows the following relationship:

$$\text{Forecast occupancy} = F_i = S_i * T_j \quad (11)$$

where,  $i = 1$  to 7 for 1 week is assumed as a seasonal unit,  $j = 1$  to  $n$ ,  $n$  = count of days for observation,  $S_i$  = seasonal coefficients; and,

$$T_i = \{A_0 - A_1 * D_j\}, \quad (12)$$

where,  $A_0$  &  $A_1$  = intercept coefficients obtained from SARIMA modeling.

##### 5.1.1.2. Holt-Winter's (HW) method

A study of channel occupancy pattern shows that the occupancy varies every hour in a day and again daily occupancy pattern has variations over the days of a week. SARIMA uses moving average and auto regression methods which assures sample variations from predicted channel occupancy rate  $\hat{\lambda}_{(j,t)}$  for  $j$ th channel at time  $t$ , as white noise. For further accurate prediction of channel occupancy rate  $\hat{\lambda}_{(j,t)}$ , it shall include three exponential smoothing factors viz. (a) the level (or mean) that is smoothed to give a local average value for the series of data, (b) the trend that is smoothed, and (c) each seasonal sub-series (i.e., all the values of Monday, all the values of Tuesday, etc. for weekly data) that is smoothed separately to give a seasonal estimate for each of the seasons. A combined effect of the three parameters is utilized to predict the call arrival rate by using the Holt-Winter's (HW) additive technique [40–42] given by equations as:

$$a_t = \alpha(\lambda_t - s_{t-p}) + (1 - \alpha)(a_{t-1} + b_{t-1}) \quad (13)$$

$$b_t = \beta(a_t - a_{t-1}) + (1 - \beta)b_{t-1} \quad (14)$$

$$s_t = \gamma(\lambda_t - a_t) + (1 - \gamma)s_{t-p} \quad (15)$$

where,  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$  are the smoothing parameters and usually their values are chosen heuristically;  $a_t$  is the smoothed level at time  $t$ ,  $b_t$  is the change in the trend at time  $t$ ,  $s_t$  is the seasonal smooth at time  $t$ ,  $p$  is the number of periods per season.

Here, term  $j$  is omitted from  $\lambda_{(j,t)}$ , and is written as  $\lambda_t$  for simplicity. The Holt-Winters algorithm requires starting (or initializing) values given by equations as below:

$$a_p = (1/p) (\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \dots + \lambda_p) \quad (16)$$

$$b_p = (1/p) [(\lambda_{p+1} - \lambda_1)/p + (\lambda_{p+2} - \lambda_2)/p \dots + (\lambda_{p+p} - \lambda_p)/p] \quad (17)$$

$$s_1 = \lambda_1 - a_p, s_2 = \lambda_2 - a_p, \dots, s_p = \lambda_p - a_p \quad (18)$$

The HW forecasts are then calculated using the latest estimates given by the equations (Eq. (13)), (Eq. (14)) and (Eq. (15)) that have been applied to the series. Thus, the predicted value for  $\hat{\lambda}_{(j,u+1)}$  for time period  $(u + 1)$  for  $j$ th channel as:

$$\hat{\lambda}_{(u+1)} = a_u + \tau b_u + s_u \quad (19)$$

where  $s_u$  is the smoothed estimate of the appropriate seasonal component at  $u$ ,  $b_u$  is the smoothed estimate of the change in the trend value at time  $u$  and  $a_u$  is the smoothed estimate of the level at time  $u$ .

### 5.1.2. Short-term prediction model

The minutewise occupancy data is used as compared to hourly occupancy data that has been used in traditional traffic prediction models.

#### 5.1.2.1. Conventional traffic prediction

The conventional telecom uses hourly prediction for estimating mobile communication traffic. In hourly prediction, peak time is not determined neither in the beginning of the hour nor at the end of hour. The clock hour is not authentic as it does not tell exactly about the peak time at which the traffic was maximum. Hourly traffic data is insufficient to decide whether a call can be initiated at a particular instant of time. Thus, it becomes necessary to study minutewise traffic pattern. In the present work, minutewise occupancy data was computed on hourly basis for various cells of varying channel numbers.

#### 5.1.2.2. Granular traffic distribution

The nature of traffic distribution for few cells at busy hours around the peak for half an hour on both the sides with time resolution of 1 min is studied. For prediction of channel occupancy by PU, it has been established that: "The rate of change of occupancy at a particular point of

time near peak time is proportional to its separation from peak time" [43]. Mathematically, it can be expressed as:

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = m' (t - t_p) \quad (20)$$

where,  $y$  = occupancy of primary channels at time  $t$ ,  $t_p$  = expected time where peak occupancy occurs,  $m'$  is an arbitrary constant.

$$\text{This evolves to : } y = at^2 + bt + c \quad (21)$$

which is the equation of a parabola with:  $h = -b/2a$ ,  $n = ah^2 + bh + c$ ;  $(h, n)$  are the equation of the vertex.  $h = t_p$ .

The peak of parabola may be different from peak occupancy minute. Also peak occupancy projected at peak of parabola shall be different from actual peak obtained.

## 5.2. Maximum duration lifetime

The authors Hao Chen and L. Trajkovic had captured 92 days (2208 h) of traffic data to study calling behavior of users [44]. They concluded that (a) time scale of minutes is too small for recording the calling activity as an average holding time of a call is usually 3–5 min, (b) time scale larger than an hour (day) is too coarse to capture. The other authors Xiukui Li and Seyed A. (Reza) Zekavat have used the concept of accessing the channel for SU which is vacant with maximum duration [45].

Hence, most of the computations in telecommunication industry are based on hourly number of calls. Accordingly, existing literatures have indicated the need for counting free lifetime of a channel as a probabilistic parameter based on hourly occupied time and hence unaware about residual lifetime, particularly in case of ON/OFF traffic channel conditions.

## 5.3. Mean residual lifetime (MRL)

Methods like dynamic spectrum access (DSA) are proposed to access the channel but the actual channel allocation is not taken into consideration. In case of CR, spectrum or channel mobility is the main challenge as the SU can only access a call without interfering the PU. The program in the present work shall determine the best channel eligible for allocation to SU using the concept of mean residual lifetime (MRL). The procedure for computation of MRL has been described below.

The PU channel state shall be considered as  $\{H_0, H_1\}$  where,  $H_0$  = free and  $H_1$  = occupied. The primary status as sensed or predicted by the SU is shown in **Figure 7** [JAF1]. False alarm and missed detection occurs during assessment which leads either to an inefficient system or interference with PU.

Considering a small unit of time ' $\tau$ ' which is the minimum time period such that BS can upload scanned RF data to Mobile Switching Centre (MSC) and fusion center without affecting routine CR operation. ' $T$ ' is the time period during which the traffic is recorded based on pulled data from different CR-BS counters and used for statistical records e.g. number of seizures of a channel per hour, total holding time of the channel per hour etc. A SU can request for a channel anytime



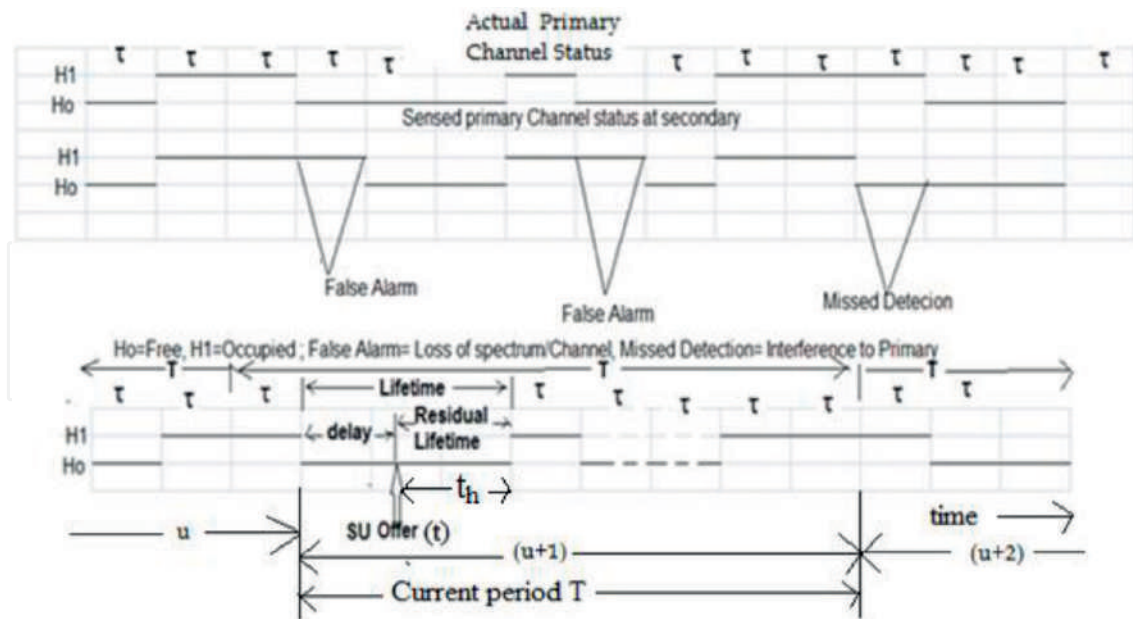


Figure 7. Channel occupancy in binary state.

within  $\tau$ . The request is conveyed to the fusion center where the decision for allocation of a suitable channel is taken based on MRL and particular requesting SU's channel holding time profile.

$T$  will be taken as an hour and  $(1/\lambda)$  in minutes. It is also considered that ' $\tau$ ' is in minutes. It is also further considered that:

1.  $\tau$  is the atomic unit of time and further decomposition of it is not practically feasible,
2. MSC is updated by BS every  $\tau$  units of time,
3. MSC updates warehouse every  $T$  units of time
4. MSC updates SU traffic data in warehouse every  $T$  units of time
5. Channel occupancy request (PU&SU) is instantly passed on by the BS to MSC in real time  $t$

These aspects will be taken up for application in different models.

Let  $\lambda$  is the number of calls arrived on a particular traffic data acquisition interval  $T$ . If  $t_h$  is the call holding time of a SU requesting a free PU channel at any time  $t$ , then the probability that none of the PU occupies a channel till  $t = t + t_h$  is given by:

$$p_0 = \exp \left\{ - \left( \hat{\lambda}/T \right) * \hat{t}_h \right\} \text{ for } t_h > \tau \text{ \& } t_h > h_p, \quad (22)$$

where,  $\hat{\lambda}$  = predicted call arrival rate at time  $t$  to be determined by Holt-Winter's method,  $h_p$  = predicted optimal holding (service) time, and,  $\hat{t}_h$  = mean of all residual life time ( $t_h$ ).

Let  $F$  be the lifetime distribution with discrete random sample and no call arrival intervals  $\Gamma_1, \Gamma_2, \dots, \Gamma_n$  in the span of observation  $T$ . We arrange them in order such that:

$$\Gamma_1 < \Gamma_2 < \dots < \Gamma_{kn} < \Gamma_{nn} \text{ when } \Gamma_{0n} = 0.$$

The empirical mean residual lifetime (MRL) is defined as:

$$m_n(t) = \frac{\sum_{i=k+1}^n (T_{in} - t)}{(n - k)} \text{ for } t_e \in [\Gamma_{kn}, \Gamma_{(k+1)n}] \quad (23)$$

and,  $m_n(t) = 0$  for  $t_e \geq \Gamma_{nn}$  and  $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, (n-1)$ .

where,  $m_n(t_e)|_j$  = mean residual lifetime of  $j$ th channel which has 'n' number of vacant intervals at observation instant 't' which can be offered a SU call.

Here,  $t_e$  is the time which has elapsed since it became free;  $\Gamma_j$  = mean residual lifetime of  $j$ th channel at an instant  $t$  of SU call offer, and  $j = 1, 2, \dots, r$  with  $r$  = total number of vacant channels at an instant 't' of offer.

The program developed by the author computes probability of success using the method proposed by Li and Zekavat, i.e., without MRL and with MRL. **Figure 8** depicts the probability of success with and without MRL for various trunk servers vs. time demanded by CR. The **Figure 8** clearly depicts that the proposed model using MRL method is superior than the method used by previous researchers [46].

#### 5.4. Estimation of user holding time

A traffic model is required to represent traffic characteristics and to estimate the performance evaluation of the volume of traffic load place on network capacity and subscriber mobility. The present work assumes that the arrival rate is Poisson's distributed. The inter-arrival rate is also assumed to be exponentially distributed. The traffic model is determined assuming a certain number of channels in a cell system. The two crucial factors for mobile communication in the traffic pattern are called arrival rate of the channel and user call holding time. Hence, the traffic model is developed based on the prediction of call arrival rate and the study of holding time distribution of individual customers.

##### 5.4.1. Poisson's distribution

A telecommunication network consists of expensive hardware (trunks, switches, etc.) which carries telecommunications traffic (phone calls, data packets, etc.). The physical network is fixed, but the traffic is random for which it is designed, i.e., the call arrival rate and the user holding time is unpredictable. Thus, to accommodate this random demand of traffic, the network designers must predict the call arrival rate for allocation of resources. The usual assumption in classical teletraffic theory is that the call arrivals follow a Poisson's process. The Poisson's assumption is consistent with data for voice traffic when the calls are generated by a large number of independently acting subscribers.

The French Mathematician Simeon Denis Poisson developed Poisson's formula. It states that for non-overlapping events, arriving at an average rate  $\lambda$ , the probability of 's' arrivals in time  $t$  equals:

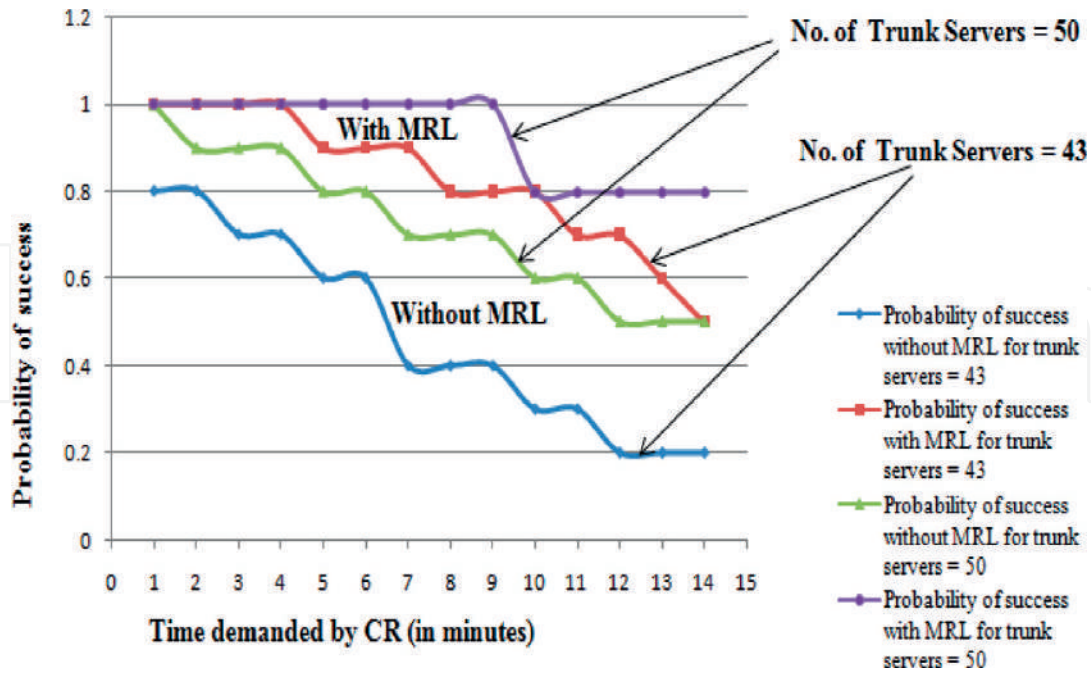


Figure 8. Comparison of probability of success with and without MRL vs. time demanded by CR for trunk servers = 43 and 50.

$$P('s' \text{ arrivals in time 't'}) = \frac{(\lambda t)^s e^{-\lambda t}}{s!} \quad (24)$$

Poisson's distribution is taken for traffic measurement as it is based on memoryless system and it generally gives a better estimate of the traffic related parameters.

#### 5.4.2. Holding time distribution

Telecom occupancy related data is stored in several counters of Base Station Controller (BSC). To get secondwise accurate data, an interrupt driven learning mechanism is required which is practically not used in telecom network because the requirement is purely academic. In earlier telecommunication, very few processors were used in the radio access logic boards. The speed of working of processors was much less as compared to present day. Further, minutewise transfer of counter data to a central computer adds to transport overhead and hence avoided. Presently, the data speed is available in processors along with high speed links. Hence, capturing of minutewise data is now feasible.

The channel occupancy duration depends on individual person depending upon profession, status, time of day, etc. and varies widely at different hours of a day. This is most predominant in case of speech communication when the channel holding time depends upon caller and various customers called parties. Thus, the holding time data shows different variation at different levels of the time series and hence, a transformation of the data series can be useful. The Box-Cox method is used to transform this data into normality. The Box-Cox method obtains a normal distribution of the transformed data (after transformation) and a constant variance.

Let us denote original observations  $h_{i,u,p}$  as  $h_p$  for the  $i^{\text{th}}$  user at  $u^{\text{th}}$  hour and write the series as  $h_1, h_2, \dots, h_t$  and transform the observations as  $w_1, w_2, \dots, w_t$ . According to Box-Cox principle [47]:

$$\begin{aligned} w_t &= \log(h_t); & \text{for } \zeta = 0 \\ \text{and } w_t &= (h_t^\zeta - 1)/\zeta; & \text{for } \zeta \neq 0 \end{aligned} \quad (25)$$

where,  $\zeta$  is a parameter used to compute the confidence level (CL). Using the values of  $\zeta = \{-2, -1, -0.5, 0, 0.5, 1, 2\}$  and to gain confidence level (CL) limit up to 95%, the optimum value of  $\zeta$  shall be used to assess  $h_p$  as:

$$\begin{aligned} h_p &= \exp(w_t); & \text{for } \zeta = 0 \\ \text{and } h_p &= (\zeta \cdot w_t + 1)^{1/\zeta}; & \text{for } \zeta \neq 0 \end{aligned} \quad (26)$$

where,  $h_p$  = optimal holding (service) time of the user at time  $t$ .

The Box-Cox method can be used to decide the optimum holding time of the user.

### 5.5. Channel allocation model

On placement of service request by an SU, all vacant channels from eligible list has to be evaluated for allocation based on (i) predicted call arrival rate during the hour created through long term table; (ii) IBP at the instant for primary decision on allocation; (iii) mean residual lifetime of the channel at the time of service request; (iv) expected service holding time of a particular user requesting service; (v) CBP at the instant based on short term table. Finally, the best channel with highest probability of survival is selected for offer to the incoming SU traffic [46].

The interworking of different blocks for channel allocation is shown in **Figure 9** and is described below:

- A. Channel traffic updation: The Gateways (GWs) monitor PU activities using dedicated RF scanners.  $G_1, G_2, \dots, G_k$  are responsible for monitoring PU activities as well as for SUs. Any change in channel occupancy is passed on by GW to CR-BS and MSC in real time  $t$ . BS maintains several counters for traffic recording purposes. The counts of the counters are polled by MSC every ' $\tau$ ' interval and then the counters are reset. When  $T = k\tau$  where,  $k = 2, 3, \dots$  MSC prepares a table for the call arrival rate for  $T$  interval for each channel and deposit to the warehouse where the data is stored in format  $\lambda(j, u)$  where,  $j$  = channel number and  $u$  = current  $T$  period number. This module also provides idle time information  $d_1, d_2, \dots$ , etc. in  $\tau$  units since a channel is free.
- B. SU traffic updation: SU traffic information is recorded in the billing register after the completion of each call. The traffic details in respect of each SU are stored in warehouse. It is used for predicting holding time of SU at the time of service request.
- C. Channel traffic prediction: Primary channel is allotted by network operator according to demand. The channel occupancy is recorded during each  $T$ . The predicted value for channel occupancy  $\hat{\lambda}_{(j,u+1)}$  for time period  $(u + 1)$  for  $j$ th channel is computed using HW method using (Eq.(19)).

As soon as a new predicted value of call arrival rate is available during a particular hour, HW updates its estimated three components (level, trend, seasonal) for that particular

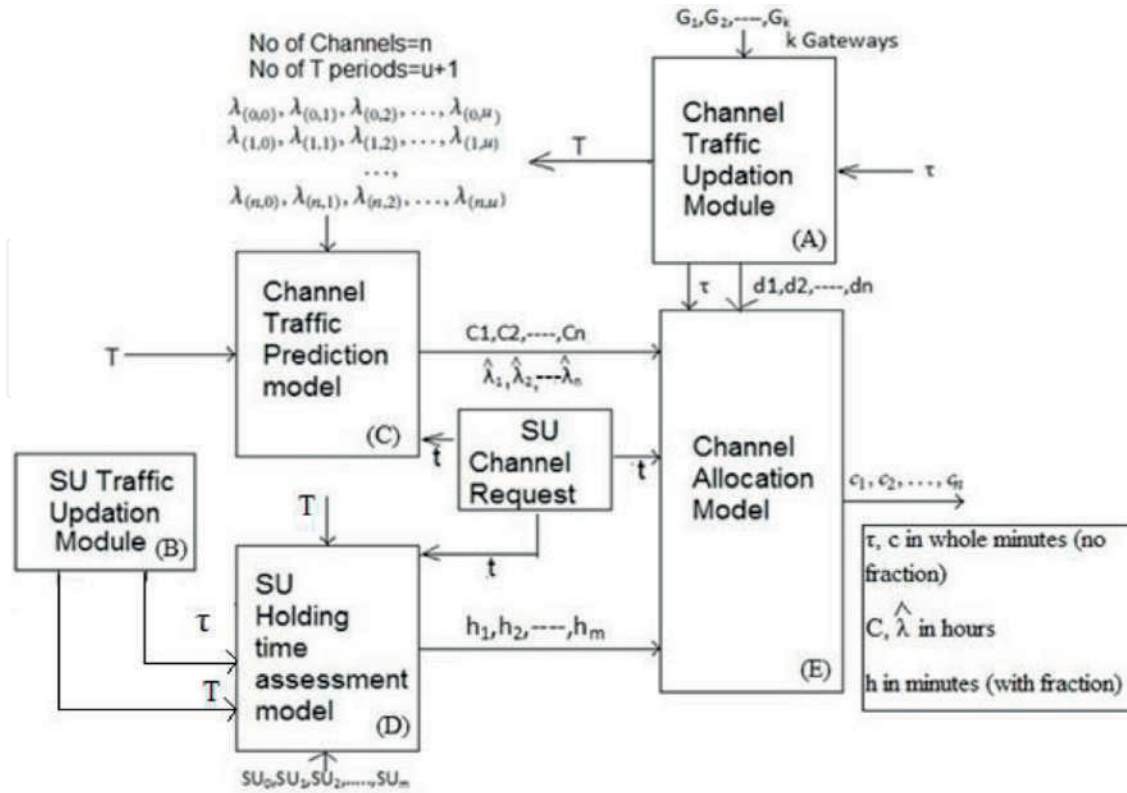


Figure 9. Channel selection block diagram.

hour. The value of smoothing constant for each component falls between zero and one. Larger smoothing constants mean more weight is placed on the value suggested by the new predicted value and less on the previous estimate. This means that the method will adapt more quickly to genuine changes in the call arrival pattern.

The list of channels  $\{C_1, C_2, \dots\}$  which satisfies the above condition are predicted during the last hour and are then transferred to the channel allocation model for assessment of holding time during the current hour of allocation.

- D. SU holding time assessment: The holding time data shows different variation at different levels of the time series and hence their transformation is done by Box-Cox method using (Eq.(25)) and the optimum holding time needed by SU is obtained by (Eq.(26)).
- E. Channel allocation model: The set of eligible channels obtained by (Eq.(22)) are with residual lifetime:

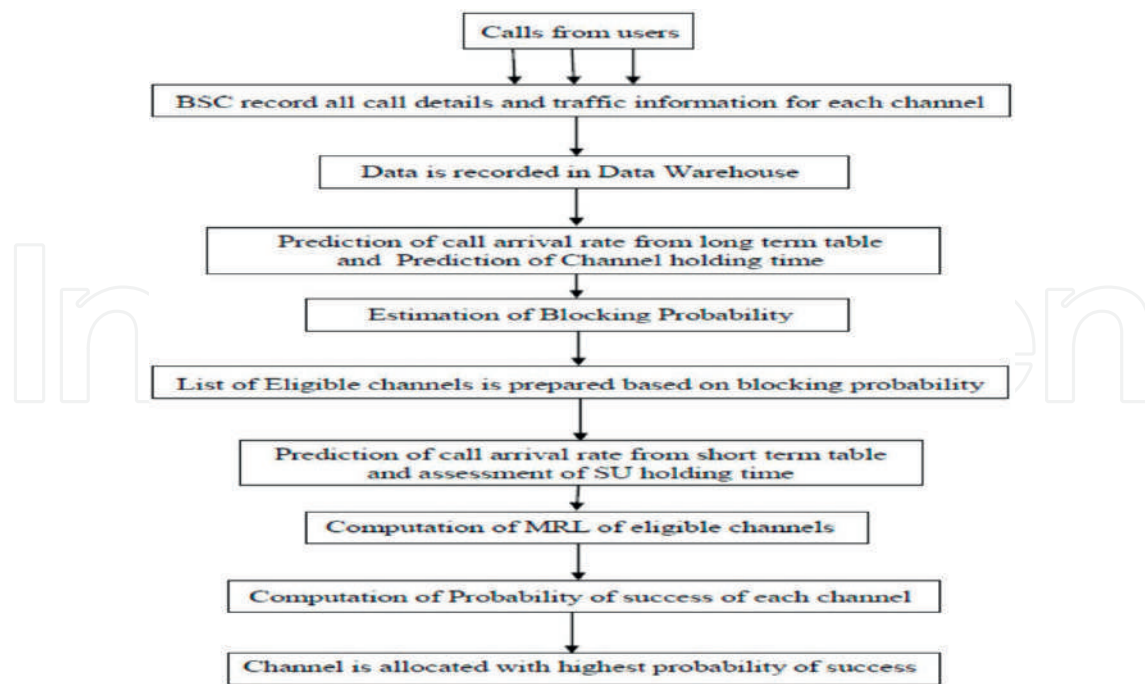
$$t_j = \Gamma_j - h_p > 0 \quad (27)$$

where,  $h_p$  = service time needed by SU at time  $t$ .

The eligible channel set  $\{c_1, c_2, \dots, c_r\}$  is arranged and the probability of the success in the offered  $j$ th channel shall be:

$$p_{0,j} = \exp \left[ - \left\{ \hat{\lambda}_{(u+1)} / T \right\} * t_j \right] \quad (28)$$





**Figure 10.** Process for channel allocation.

A sequential flowchart of data flow from all the blocks and computation of MRL has been given in **Figure 10**. Based on the measurement of the call arrival rate, holding time of PUs and various parameters of QoS, the channel allocation is done.

## 5.6. Simulation and verification of results

Minutewise traffic data acquisitioned online is collected in a table in OMC-R. SU can raise service request at any time. To serve channel allocation engine inputs,

- At the beginning of each hour, for all channels predicted call arrival rate  $\hat{\lambda}_{(j,t)}$  for the current hour from channel prediction model;
- estimated holding time in minutes for the service request from SU holding time assessment model;
- all channel occupancy status is 'free' or 'busy' mode for last 60 min starting from current minute from channel traffic updation module is taken, and
- their MRL is computed.

Finally, channels with highest probability of survival given by Eq. (28) are selected for offer to the incoming SU traffic.

A trial run for 25 times each for available channels 7, 15, 22, 29, 36, 43 and 50 were carried for holding times from 1 to 14 min in the program developed by the author. A snapshot of the program is depicted in **Figure 11**, where different SUs demand varying holding times. The 'red' color indicates that the channel is busy while the 'green' color indicates that the channel is free. Whenever an SU requests a channel at time  $t$  for a certain holding time, the channel is allocated to

** CHANNEL ALLOCATION TO SU AT AN INSTANT OF TIME $t=t+1$ FOR CHANNELS $j=1$ to 22											
TIME (in minutes)	1	2	.	.	.	.	.	t	$t+1$	.	3600
CHANNEL NO.											
#1	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	1			
#2	0	1. INITIALIZE	0	0	0	0	4. IBP	1			
#3	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	0			
#4	0	2. START	0	0	0	1	5. PROCESS	1			
.	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0			
.	1	3. Press CTRL & PAUSE	0	1	0	6. CBP	1				
#21	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	1			
#22	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Channel Allocation is successful if holding time demanded by CR = 3 minutes											
Channel Allocation fails if holding time demanded by CR = 3 minutes											

Figure 11. A snapshot of the program for channel allocation at an instant of time  $t$ .

that particular SU if the channel is free for continuous holding time demanded by SU, and is shown in 'yellow' color in **Figure 11**. If the channel is busy even for the last holding time demanded by SU, the program indicates that the channel allocation is unsuccessful and is shown with 'red' color in continuation with yellow color.

To study success rate for channel allocation various cases were considered with varying available number of channels and different holding times demanded by SU, where the total number of channels in the cell is denoted by  $t_{ch}$ .

Case (i): Consider  $t_{ch} = 15$  and the time demanded by the SU = 2 min. The result is obtained when the program is initialized at 100th min and stopped at 102nd min out of 300 min total available data. At 102nd min, when a call request is made by SU, the total available vacant channels are 5 out of 15 channels. The values of blocking probabilities are obtained as IBP = 0.03649 and CBP = 0.0308. The MRL is computed for all the five vacant channels. The MRL of the five channels are 4.7, 0.82, 0.5, -27 and -27.25. As one of the channels has maximum MRL and has value > holding time demanded (2 min), it is selected for channel allocation to SU. The result is depicted in snapshot given in **Figure 12** and is shown with continuity of yellow color for 2 min, which signifies that the channel allocation was successful. **Table 7** shows analysis of success rate for 15 channels with various holding times demanded by CR.

Case (ii): Consider  $t_{ch} = 43$  and the time demanded by the SU = 9 min. The result is obtained when the program is initialized at 80th min and stopped at 82nd min out of 300 min total available data. At 82nd min, when a call request is made by SU, the total vacant channels are 14 out of 43 channels. The values of blocking probabilities are obtained as IBP =  $1.102 \times 10^{-3}$  and CBP =  $6.442 \times 10^{-4}$ . The MRL is computed for all the 14 vacant channels. The MRL of the 14 channels are: 4, 0.75, 0.444444, -0.6875, -1.5, -2.6, -4, -5.66667, -5.8, -11.6667, -12.5, -13.5714, -13.8, -14.2222, -20. As the MRL of one of the channels has value > holding time demanded (9 min); thus, the channel allocation was successful. The result is depicted in snapshot given in **Figure 13** and is shown with yellow color which signifies that the channel allocation was successful. **Table 8** shows analysis of success rate for 43 channels with various holding times demanded by CR.

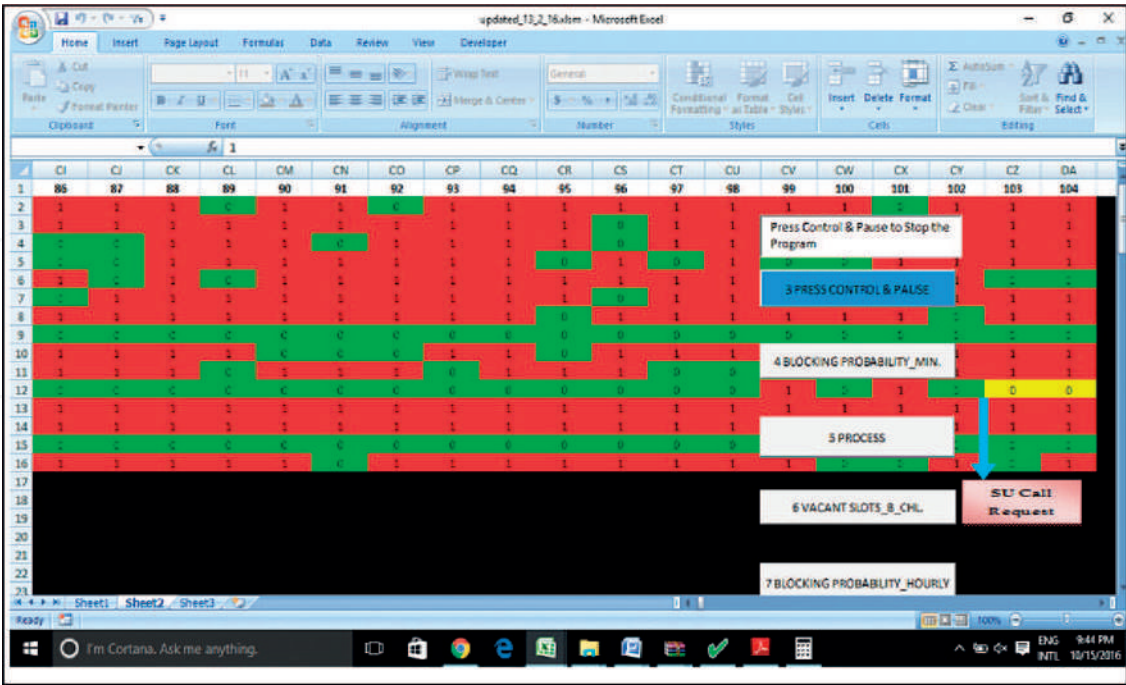


Figure 12. Validation result for total channels = 15; SU holding time demanded = 2 min.

OBSERVATION	INSTANT OF OFFER	TIME DEMANDED BY CR													
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
#1	65														
#2	70														
#3	75														
#4	80														
#5	85														
#6	90														
#7	95														
#8	100														
#9	105														
#10	110														
#11	115														
#12	120														
#13	125														
#14	130														
#15	135														
#16	140														
#17	145														
#18	150														
#19	155														
#20	160														
#21	165														
#22	170														
#23	175														
#24	180														
#25	185														
SUM (SUCCESS)		20	15	7	5	6	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
PROBABILITY OF SUCCESS		0.8	0.6	0.28	0.2	0.24	0.16	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04

Table 7. Computation of success rate for total channels = 15 for CR holding time = 1 to 14 at various runs of the program.

Thus, the channel allocation is successful as the count of channels increases in the system with the precondition that the  $MRL > \text{time demanded by the SU}$ .

5.7. Validation of result

The data was chosen at busy hours for various channels ranging from 15 to 50 and minutewise occupancy for 300 min calls is taken for simulation purpose. A program has been developed for



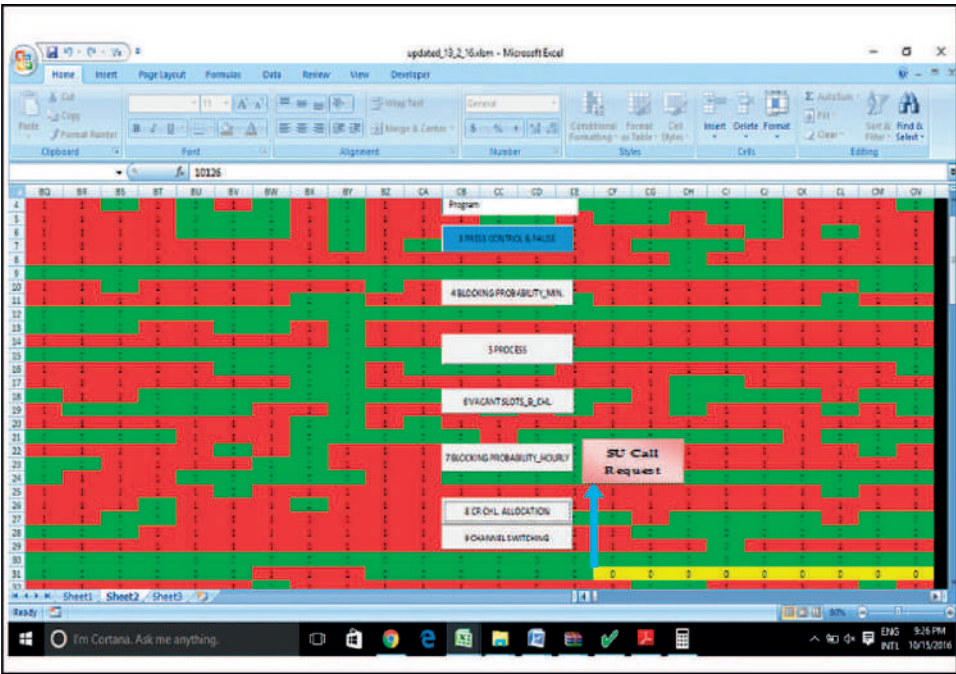
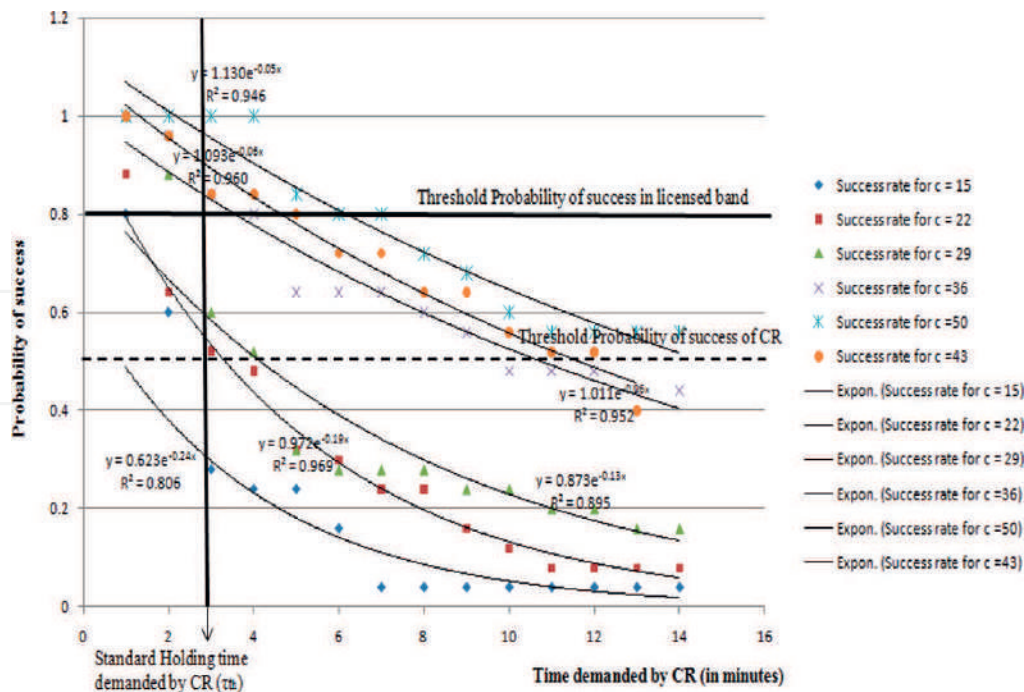


Figure 13. Validation result for total channels = 43; SU holding time demanded = 9 min.

OBSERVATION	INSTANT OF OFFER	TIME DEMANDED BY CR													
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
#1	65														
#2	70														
#3	75														
#4	80														
#5	85														
#6	90														
#7	95														
#8	100														
#9	105														
#10	110														
#11	115														
#12	120														
#13	125														
#14	130														
#15	135														
#16	140														
#17	145														
#18	150														
#19	155														
#20	160														
#21	165														
#22	170														
#23	175														
#24	180														
#25	185														
SUM (SUCCESS)		25	24	21	21	20	18	18	16	16	14	13	13	10	10
PROBABILITY OF SUCCESS		1	0.96	0.84	0.84	0.8	0.72	0.72	0.64	0.64	0.56	0.52	0.52	0.4	0.4

Table 8. Computation of success rate for total channels = 43 for CR holding time = 1 to 14 at various runs of the program.

real time offering and verification if the call request succeeds or fails for the duration demanded by SU. The program calculates the predicted  $\lambda$  upto last hour at background and has been included in simulation program as offline. Similarly, holding time needed for SU has also been imprinted interactively. The program accepts any number of PU channels upto 50 selectively at the time of trial. The position of occupancy can be seen on screen starting from any instant after 60 min upto 300 min for any duration. Also, one or more SU calls can be offered to the system and minute by minute observation of SU call progress can be monitored on screen.



**Figure 14.** Probability of success rate vs. time demanded by CR for various trunk servers.

The program was run repetitively and at random, under various channel availability conditions and differently demanded holding time. The result has been plotted in **Figure 14**, where the probability of success (or QoS) has been calculated as:

$$\text{probability of success (or QoS)} = \frac{\text{number of times call success}}{\text{total number of trials}},$$

where, number of trials were 25 times for each run condition at random input time.

As depicted in **Figure 14**, in case, if the threshold probability in licensed band is taken to be 0.8, the success rate for CR users is still achieved if the channels are  $\geq 36$  and holding time  $\leq 2.5$  min demanded by the SU [46]. When the threshold probability for SU is 0.5, the success rate is achieved if the channels are  $\geq 22$  with minimum holding time  $\leq 2.5$  min demanded by the SU. Thus, when the PU channel occupancy is 50%, the CR-BS shall provide mobile channel to SU with blocking probability  $\leq 0.02$ , where industry standard for blocking is 2% (0.02).

Thus, the CR-BS shall be capable of providing vacant channels to SU. Grade of Service (GoS) of SU is at par with GoS standard specified for PU when traffic intensity is below 50%. Success rate of channel allocation is increased as number of channels increases in the system.

## 6. Conclusion

In mobile communication network, despite heavy usage of communication channels, vacant channels are available which can be used for cognitive radio network. From the present work it is found that practically 20% or more of the total licensed bandwidth is permanently unused or vacant even in a crowded region. This is well above the need of 1 out of 8th part of the band to get access to the whole of the bandwidth at a time by CR and adequate to take additional MAC



level overhead required for CR. Remaining 80% of the licensed bands are dynamically vacant which can be used for traffic purpose. Based on results, an empirical relationship has been established for channel occupancy for a city, where such survey has not been conducted but population is known. The blocking probability of the channels are available for allocation and duration of remaining unoccupied can be mapped to the instant status of the channels. The present work has established that when the PU channel occupancy is 50%, the CR-BS shall provide voice channel to SU with blocking probability  $\leq 0.02$ , where industry standard for blocking is 0.02. The GoS improves linearly with total number of channels in the system at a given per channel availability. It is also evident that Erlang theory is effective for Poisson's distribution theorem with  $\geq 20$  channels for GoS to achieve.

A program that has been developed to accept SU service requests with different QoS from a set of PU channels can be used for dynamic allocation to SU. A SU call request can be placed in such a dynamic environment and status of the SU call progress can be noticed till the end of requested holding time. The mean residual lifetime (MRL) of the free channels was computed based on requesting SU call holding time for PU channel allocation to a requesting SU. The channel with highest MRL is allocated. If the threshold probability in licensed band is taken to be 0.8, the success rate for CR users is achieved if the channels are  $\geq 36$  and holding time  $\leq 2.5$  min demanded by the SU. When the threshold probability for SU is 0.5, the success rate is achieved if the channels are  $\geq 22$  with minimum holding time  $\leq 2.5$  min demanded by the SU. Thus, success rate of channel allocation increases with the increase in number of channels in the system.

The proposed model shall be deployed to provide services for IoT through wireless communication. The implementation of the proposed work shall be a good solution where high volume of devices with low mobility is required for new wireless technologies.

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# Licensed Shared Access Evolution to Provide Exclusive and Dynamic Shared Spectrum Access for Novel 5G Use Cases

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Additional information is available at the end of the chapter

<http://dx.doi.org/10.5772/intechopen.79553>

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## Abstract

This chapter studies the Licensed Shared Access (LSA) concept, which was initially developed to enable the use of the vacant spectrum resources in 2.3–2.4 GHz band for mobile broadband (MBB) through long-term static licenses. The LSA system was developed to guarantee LSA licensees a predictable quality of service (QoS) and exclusive access to shared spectrum resources. This chapter describes the development and architecture of LSA for 2.3–2.4 GHz band and compares the LSA briefly to the Spectrum Access System (SAS) concept developed in the USA. 5G and its new use cases require a more dynamic approach to access shared spectrum resources than the LSA system developed for 2.3–2.4 GHz band can provide. Thus, a concept called LSA evolution is currently under development. The novel concepts introduced in LSA evolution include spectrum sensing, short-term license periods, possibility to allocate spectrum locally, and support for co-primary sharing, which can guarantee the quality of service (QoS) from spectrum perspective. The chapter also describes a demonstration of LSA evolution system with spectrum user prioritization, which was created for Programme Making and Special Events (PMSE) use case.

**Keywords:** spectrum sharing, Licensed Shared Access (LSA), LSA evolution, PMSE, LTE, incumbents, 5G

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## 1. Introduction

Demand for radio spectrum is constantly increasing as wireless services; especially, video streaming and emerging Internet of Things (IoT) are being adopted at an accelerating pace.

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Mobile phones, laptops, and tablets are becoming more and more common, and the quality of available content and services is also increasing. This has resulted in rapid increases in the amount of traffic in mobile networks, and the increases are predicted to continue [1–3]. This presents extreme challenges for mobile communication systems, as there is a lack of new spectrum resources to be allocated for the growing number of connected devices, services, and users.

The wireless communication technologies themselves are approaching the fundamental theoretical limits of bandwidth efficiency, but simultaneously the frequency bands are exclusively licensed to different services which might not utilize all of their spectrum resources. Valuable spectrum resources can be left unexploited at different frequencies if the license owner does not use them at all times or at all locations. For example, several spectrum measurement campaigns covering frequencies up to 3 GHz state that the spectrum utilization rate is on the scale of 10–20% [4–6], and thus, most of the spectrum resources remain unused. It is necessary to utilize the existing frequency resources more efficiently to satisfy the growing demand for spectrum, but the current exclusive licensing methods do not allow this. Recent international studies have concluded that spectrum sharing will play a major role in maximizing the amount of available spectrum for wireless communication systems [7, 8].

The current exclusive spectrum licensing needs to be updated or replaced to enable spectrum sharing. In spectrum sharing, the users who currently hold an exclusive license to use a frequency band are called incumbents and are the primary users of the band. If the incumbents are using their spectrum resources inefficiently, their spectrum resources could potentially be shared with other users who could use the vacant spectrum resources at certain times or at certain locations where the license holder does not have any transmissions. Spectrum occupancy measurements have been proposed to find candidate frequency bands for spectrum sharing [4]. The vacant spectrum resources could be utilized through dynamic spectrum access methods, such as opportunistic spectrum access (OSA) [9] or Licensed Shared Access (LSA) [10]. In OSA, the shared spectrum user chooses the best available vacant transmission channel in an opportunistic and dynamic manner as an unlicensed secondary user of the spectrum, who does not need a license but does not have any guarantees on the amount and quality of available spectrum and has no protection from any harmful interference.

Cognitive radio spectrum sharing can be divided into three different types: underlay, overlay, and interweave. In underlay spectrum sharing, the cognitive users are allowed to operate if the interference they cause to the incumbents is below a given level. In overlay spectrum sharing, the cognitive user needs to know the incumbent signal. The cognitive user then adds its own data to the incumbent data and transmits the combined signal. In interweave spectrum sharing, the cognitive radios exploit spectral holes. The spectral holes are spectrum which is not used to be the incumbent in time, frequency, or spatial dimension. In each of the cognitive spectrum sharing types, accurate spectrum sensing data are of paramount importance both to guarantee the protection of the incumbents and to maximize the capacity available for the cognitive users. The currently standardized LSA belongs to interweave category, typically uses static vertical long-term spectrum leasing, and does not include spectrum sensing capabilities.

In LSA, vacant spectrum resources can be leased to shared spectrum users, known as LSA licensees, who are guaranteed an exclusive access to the leased spectrum resources and are

protected from harmful interference. The incumbents are also protected from interference and might receive economic benefits from leasing their underutilized spectrum resources. The traffic load of the incumbent (licensed) users in LSA does not affect the performance of the LSA licensees, as the LSA licensees' transmissions are restricted so that they do not cause harmful interference to the incumbents under any circumstances. The terminology and definitions for shared spectrum access methods are diverse, but OSA and LSA could be considered as the two main categories in frequency bands with existing incumbents. Regardless of the used shared spectrum access method, it is essential to guarantee that the incumbents currently present in the band are protected from any harmful interference that could be induced by the newly introduced shared spectrum users.

The future LSA evolution will enable spectrum sensing and thus more dynamic use of spectrum. The current control solutions for network coordination are insufficient for heterogeneous 5G networks, where the performance of dense deployments could be further enhanced by advanced spectrum sharing [11]. 5G-PPP project called COHERENT considers the novel methods for coordinated control and spectrum management for 5G heterogeneous networks in LSA evolution.

Section 2 describes the development and architecture of LSA system for 2.3–2.4 GHz band. Section 3 discusses the feasibility, current status, and evolution of LSA toward 5G and makes a comparison to Spectrum Access System (SAS) concept developed in the USA. Section 4 describes an LSA evolution PMSE use case trial. Section 5 discusses the use of LSA evolution in 5G networks, and Section 6 gives the concluding remarks.

## **2. Development and architecture of LSA for 2.3–2.4 GHz band**

The development of LSA concept began in European regulation and standardization to create a method for the mobile network operators (MNOs) to deploy their networks into bands allocated for mobile broadband (MBB), which currently have incumbents operating in the band. The concept allows spectrum sharing between an MNO and the incumbents with licensing conditions and rules that benefit both stakeholders. Radio Spectrum Policy Group (RSPG) proposed LSA concept [12] as an extension to an earlier proposal by an industry consortium, called Authorized Shared Access (ASA) [13]. ASA is limited to the International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT) use, while LSA can also be applied to other types of spectrum sharing. The 2.3 GHz band was chosen as the first frequency band for which to develop the operating conditions for LSA.

International Telecommunication Union Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) has globally allocated the 2.3–2.4 GHz band for mobile broadband (MBB) systems at the World Radiocommunication Conference 2007 (WRC-07) [14]. However, the frequency band is currently used by different incumbents in European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT) countries [15]. The main users are PMSE applications, such as wireless camera links [16]. They are typically used to transmit video and audio wirelessly from a camera to an outside broadcasting (OB) van, and the typical users thus are the broadcasting companies.

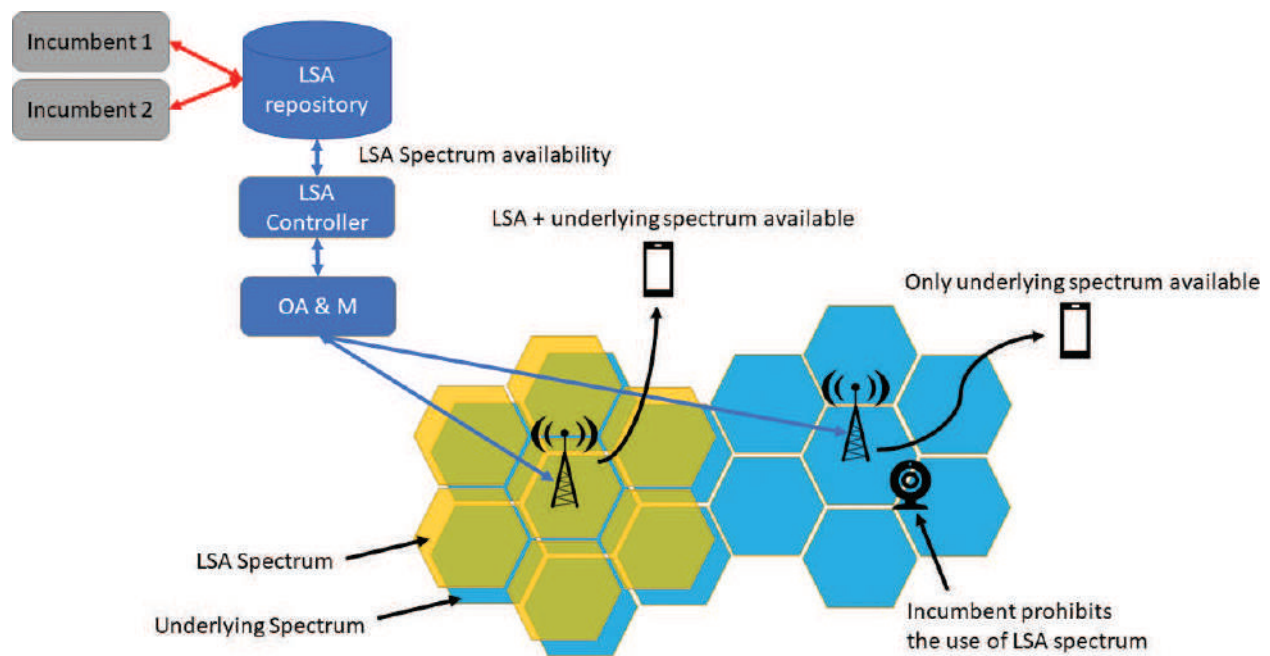
The spectrum occupancy of the 2.3 GHz band in a single location in Finland was studied using several weeks of spectrum measurement data from Turku spectrum observatory in [17, 18]. The results showed that spectrum occupancy was very low and sporadic, and the detected busy periods were only 3–9 seconds long. The wireless camera transmissions typically occupy a bandwidth of 20 MHz, meaning a 20% occupancy per transmission over the whole 100 MHz frequency band. The instantaneous channel occupancy values were between 0 and 30%, but when the occupancy was filtered with a 5-minute moving average filter, the occupancy was between 0 and 5%. The filtered values confirm that the periods when the spectrum is occupied are very short in time. In addition to the signals interpreted as wireless cameras, only a small number of higher power peaks, probably from narrowband amateur radio services, was detected. The wireless camera transmissions are very low power and difficult to detect, and the studies conducted with a professional level wireless camera in [18] demonstrate that the spectrum observatories are able to detect the wireless cameras only from distances smaller than 250 m. Thus, single-location spectrum occupancy measurements cannot be used to draw strong conclusions on the spectrum occupancy trends over large geographical areas.

One reason why allocating the 2.3 GHz band for MBB in Europe is important is that the frequency band is already in MBB use in other regions. Thus, the transmitter hardware already exists and can be easily implemented in mobile receivers for European market. An economic analysis [19] also indicates that the impact of making 2.3 GHz band available for MBB in Europe could be worth 6.5–22 billion euros. However, the national administrations are unwilling to move the current incumbents to other frequency bands. Such an operation would result in expenses to the incumbents who would need to update their equipment, and in addition, there is a lack of suitable unallocated frequency bands. As the utilization of the 2.3 GHz frequency band appears to be very low, an optimal solution would be to let the current incumbents stay in the frequency band and to allow the MBB operation by exploiting the vacant spectrum resources. Again, the protection of the current incumbents is essential. LSA is needed in the 2.3 GHz band to provide exclusive shared spectrum access to the MBB and to protect the current incumbents.

Working Group Frequency Management (WG FM) established Frequency Management 53 (FM53)—Reconfigurable Radio Systems (RRS) and LSA project team in September 2012. The aim of FM53 was to provide generic guidelines to CEPT administrations for the implementation of the LSA. The European Commission (EC) requested an opinion from RSPG on regulatory and economic aspects of LSA in November 2012 [20], and their final opinion from November 2013 [21] defined that LSA is “a regulatory approach aiming to facilitate the introduction of radiocommunication systems operated by a limited number of licensees under an individual licensing regime in a frequency band already assigned or expected to be assigned to one or more incumbent users. Under the LSA approach, the additional users are authorized to use the spectrum (or part of the spectrum) in accordance with sharing rules included in their rights of the use of spectrum, thereby allowing all the authorized users, including incumbents, to provide a certain QoS.”

Thus, LSA gives the MNOs a predictable QoS through individual licensing and exclusive shared access to the spectrum resources. The MNO accessing shared spectrum through





**Figure 1.** LSA architecture (Adapted from [22]).

temporary leasing is called LSA licensee. The functionalities of LSA are enabled mainly by two additional units on top of the existing mobile networks: the LSA Repository and the LSA Controller. The LSA Repository is a database containing information on incumbent spectrum utilization, while the task of the LSA Controller is to guarantee protection and interference-free operation for both types of users by using the data from the LSA Repository. The LSA Repository can be managed by the National Regulatory Authorities, the incumbents, or a trusted third party.

The LSA Repository contains information on the spectrum availability for LSA licensees and spectrum sharing rules. This information is communicated to the LSA Controller through a secure and reliable communication path. Based on the information from the LSA Repository, the LSA Controller controls the spectrum use of LSA licensee(s). There may be several LSA Repositories from which the LSA Controller gets the information on spectrum availability and also several LSA licensees' networks.

**Figure 1** illustrates the LSA architecture. Several incumbents provide information on their spectrum utilization to the LSA Repository, which communicates it to the LSA Controller. The LSA Controller provides this information to the MNO operations, administration, and maintenance (OAM), which instructs that the relevant base stations of the MBB network can use the spectrum resources which are not used by the incumbents in the band. These newly available spectrum resources are taken into use to provide additional capacity through carrier aggregation (CA). The underlying spectrum in other frequency bands (blue cells in the figure) is exclusively licensed for MBB transmissions, while the orange cells can provide additional capacity using the LSA spectrum resources in the 2.3 GHz band. On the right side of the figure, the incumbent operation prevents the use of LSA spectrum, and only the underlying MBB spectrum resources can be used. This is illustrated through the absence of orange LSA cells.

LSA Spectrum Resource Availability Information (LSRAI) contains the information on the LSA spectrum resource that may be used by the LSA licensee. LSRAI is generated in the LSA Repository and sent to the LSA Controller over the LSA<sub>1</sub> interface using LSA<sub>1</sub> protocol messages as defined in the ETSI technical specification [23]. The LSA Information Exchange Function to maintain the LSRAI synchronization between LSA Controllers and LSA Repositories and the LSA<sub>1</sub> protocol are described in detail in [23].

As defined in [23], LSRAI has the following characteristics:

- It contains one or more zones. A zone is an information object which describes a set of operational conditions or restrictions to be applied by the LSA licensee.
- A zone has a zone type associated to it (e.g., restriction, protection, exclusion).
- A zone contains space, frequency, radio, and time parameters:
  - Space parameters describing the geographical area to which the restriction applies.
  - Frequency parameters describing the frequency range to which the restriction applies.
  - Time parameters describing when the restriction applies.
  - Radio parameters describing the RF restrictions to be applied within the space/frequency/time combination defined by the above parameters
- A zone has a zone ID and a zone configuration index associated to it.

### 3. The status of LSA and SAS

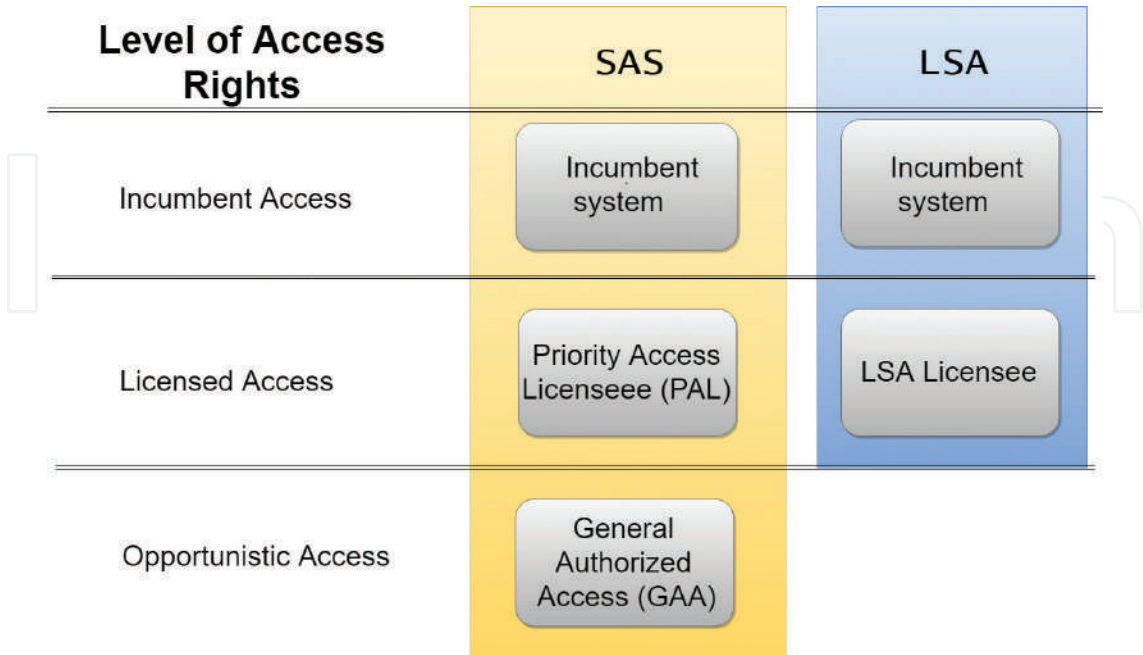
This section considers the feasibility, current status, and evolution of LSA and briefly compares it to the US concept for licensed shared spectrum access; Spectrum Access System (SAS). The work on LSA has been very active in regulation and standardization: CEPT Reports [24–26], ECC harmonized conditions for the use of the 2.3 GHz band in [15, 27–29], and European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI) standardization in [22, 23, 30, 31] provide all the measures needed for a National Regulatory Authorities in a CEPT country to create an implementation of LSA. A regulatory evaluation in [32] concluded that LSA implementations are feasible as they provide a simple spectrum sharing approach providing a high degree of certainty for both the incumbent and the LSA licensee with low impact to the systems and the concept has already been tested and approved. The use of LSA is a national matter, which does not require modifications to the ITU-R Radio Regulations (RR) but needs to comply with the current regulations.

A study on the feasibility of LSA from business perspective [33] concluded that LSA implementations could be profitable for MNOs in Finland if they have a reasonably good customer base and well-defined network launch and management. Most importantly, the MNO has to carefully investigate the techno-economics to see if there is a customer base large enough to justify the investments in new spectrum and network resources. A Finnish LSA

trial environment is operated in Ylivieska [34, 35], but no commercial deployments of LSA in 2.3 GHz band are available yet. A service pilot with LSA radio licenses to commercial end users operating with incumbent wireless cameras in the 2.3 GHz band was announced in the Netherlands in May 2016 [36], and more pilots are expected in the near future. The LTE MNOs are expected to make fairly static multiyear spectrum sharing contracts with the incumbents to justify investments in building mobile network infrastructure for LSA operation [37]. LSA could also provide mechanisms to mitigate intra-MNO-system interference [37].

A concept called SAS is in development in the USA. It is very similar to LSA, as both of them include incumbent users and licensed shared users who have exclusive shared access to the spectrum. The Licensed Shared Access in SAS is known as Priority Access License (PAL). LSA excludes opportunistic access where no protection from incumbents is provided, but SAS adds an additional third tier for unlicensed opportunistic spectrum access with General Authorized Access (GAA), as shown in **Figure 2**. PAL users are protected from interference from GAA tier, but not from the incumbents.

The SAS design ensures protection also for the incumbents who cannot provide a priori information to a central database. This is a major difference to LSA, where this information has to be communicated to a central database (LSA Repository) in order to protect the incumbents. The incumbents operating in the Citizens Broadband Radio Service (CBRS) band include military services whose information is too sensitive to be stored in a database. Instead, SAS includes Environmental Sensing Capability (ESC) component which uses spectrum sensing to provide the needed data for spectrum access decisions. As [38] states, spectrum sensing is not a trivial matter, especially with the strict requirements in SAS. ESC will not be used in the first phase of SAS deployment, which restricts the SAS operation in the zones with military incumbents near coastal areas until a suitable ESC technology is available. ESC technologies have



**Figure 2.** Overview of the level of access rights in different tiers of SAS and LSA sharing models.

already been developed and demonstrated in SAS trials [39]. Unlike LSA, SAS standardization is still in progress, but the industrial interest in CBRS Alliance [40] is strong and advances are expected in the near future. The first commercial SAS deployments are expected during 2018 [41] in 3.55–3.7 GHz CBRS [42] band in the USA. **Table 1** gives a brief comparison of the key features of the LSA and SAS concepts. More detailed considerations and comparisons from both technical and business perspectives are given in [43, 44].

LSA and SAS are currently defined for use only in the mentioned frequency bands with their specific incumbents, but the basic operational principles are straightforward to adopt to other sub-6 GHz frequency bands, where spectrum sharing is more relevant. Spectrum sharing is less relevant in higher frequency ranges, such as mmWaves, where wireless communication is not so much limited by interference, but the higher path losses. The ETSI LSA standardization was done partly in liaison with the 3rd Generation Partnership Project (3GPP) [45], which has studied how LSA could provide a global solution for a 3GPP MNO in [46]. LSA has also been recognized as one of the future technology trends for IMT in the ITU-R Working Party 5D on IMT systems [47].

5G and its new use cases require a more dynamic approach to access shared spectrum resources than ETSI LSA for 2.3–2.4 GHz band can provide. Spectrum sensing techniques are needed as the more dynamic access to spectrum cannot be achieved by using static a priori information. The dominant problems in spectrum sensing are the removal of shadowing and multipath fading. Methods to overcome these problems through cooperative mobile measurements to create interference maps are discussed in [48], but the current technologies related to spectrum sensing are still not able to guarantee protection from harmful interference [43].

	LSA	SAS
Tiers	Two tiers with individual access	3-tier system; two tiers with individual access and a third license-exempt tier
Database	Centralized geo-location database based on static a priori information on the incumbents	Centralized geolocation database with information based on spectrum sensing technologies
Spectral efficiency	Less efficient use of spectrum	More efficient use of spectrum
Use of spectrum	Current version is a static framework for long-term spectrum leasing in 2.3 GHz band. Future LSA evolution will include spectrum sensing to provide more dynamic use of spectrum	GAA tier enables very flexible and dynamic short-term use of spectrum with a very low entry barrier, but the GAA spectrum access and quality are less certain than with the exclusive LSA licenses
Software and hardware	Minimal additions to the existing 3GPP network ecosystem.	Requires new near real-time sensing capabilities and big data and spectrum analytics
Complexity	Less complex	Very complex due to the spectrum sensing needed for the GAA tier
Adaptability	Initially focused on Europe but easily adaptable to other regions	Initially specific to US federal use, additional adaptability is needed for other regions

**Table 1.** Brief comparison of LSA and SAS concepts.



A concept called LSA evolution is currently under development. The use of spectrum sensing is considered to provide more dynamic version of LSA, which is needed for the novel 5G use cases [49, 50]. The original LSA specification assumes that the spectrum is available for the operator always when the incumbent does not use the spectrum. The spectrum is available for the operator within the regulative area, like country borders, excluding the areas where the incumbent uses the spectrum. From spectrum perspective, high QoS is achieved when the incumbent does not use the spectrum.

The interest in private LTE and 5G networks has grown due to the increased number of IMT frequency bands, higher frequency ranges, variety in spectrum assignments for 3GPP technologies, and revolution of wireless industrial communication [51]. The feasibility study [52] addresses these issues and applies learning from the later developed SAS/CBRS system at the same time. The study considers, for example, how to provide temporary spectrum access for local high-quality wireless networks.

The new concepts for LSA evolution include short-term license periods, possibility to allocate spectrum locally, and supporting co-primary sharing, which can guarantee the quality of service from spectrum perspective [49, 53]. Most LTE use is static, when the spectrum assignments are considered. Even if the user equipments (UEs) are mobile, the spectrum use is more determined by the eNodeBs. They traditionally require masts, electricity, backhaul connectivity, and professional installers.

The temporary LTE or 5G spectrum access is most likely to be related to PMSE, Public Protection and Disaster Relief (PPDR), or Test and Development (T&D) licenses. The current mobile networks are wide area networks even if they are built for capacity. Most private LTE and 5G networks are local. PMSE, PPDR, and T&D networks are both temporary and local and thus can benefit most from LSA evolution.

#### **4. LSA evolution system for 5G PMSE use case trial**

This section presents a trial of LSA evolution system developed for 5G PMSE use case. The trial focuses on utilizing LSA for sharing spectrum in 2.3–2.4 GHz band between wireless cameras (PMSE) and mobile network operator (MNO) serving users. When the spectrum is required by the incumbents, such as wireless video cameras during a sports event, the transmissions of the mobile network in this area need to be controlled to allow the operation of the wireless cameras in the band. The mobile network base stations on this band can be shut down or their transmission powers and potentially operating frequencies controlled.

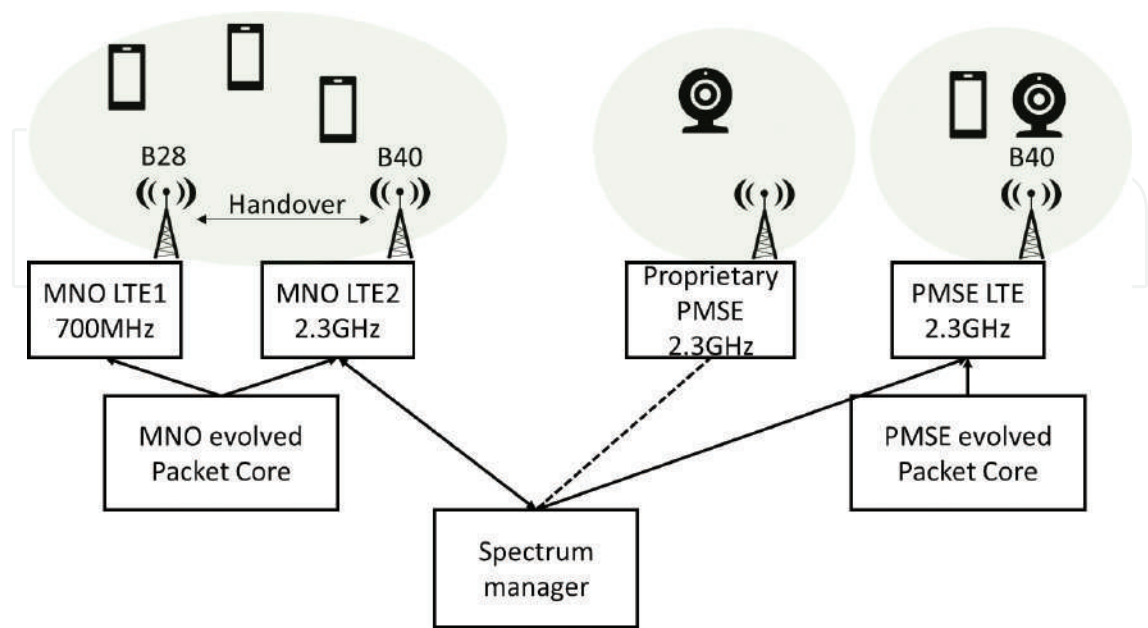
The developed LSA evolution system allows to set priorities for different users of the spectrum, and thus it is possible, for example, to give the highest priority to the old/proprietary PMSE systems which cannot communicate bidirectionally with the spectrum manager, which includes the functionalities of LSA Controller and LSA Repository. The LTE/5G-based equipment can be controlled (their transmission frequencies and power levels adjusted) so that no interference is caused toward the old/proprietary PMSE equipment or other LTE/5G-based equipment.



The trial assumes that the broadcasters and other PMSE stakeholders may have a mixture of proprietary and LTE/5G PMSE wireless technology in use in the future. This trial demonstrates how broadcasters can gradually move from proprietary 2.3 GHz wireless camera technology to 2.3 GHz LTE/5G PMSE. Both old and new equipment can be used simultaneously within the trial system. One major advantage of LTE/5G radio-based PMSE is that the spectrum manager can directly control the equipment (e.g., change its operating frequency to avoid interference). Another advantage of having an own PMSE LTE/5G system compared to using commercial LTE/5G networks for the PMSE traffic is that the PMSE stakeholder is able to fully control the use and thus the load of its own PMSE system.

The architecture of the trial setup shown in **Figure 3** consists of PMSE equipment operating occasionally on 2.3 GHz band and MNO LTE network operating on 700 and 2.3 GHz bands. This represents a situation where MNO employs additional capacity on 2.3 GHz band using, for example, supplemental downlink (SDL) concept. Proprietary PMSE equipment represents an OFDM-based proprietary solution for wireless cameras operating on the band. PMSE LTE in **Figure 3** is a rapidly deployable LTE/5G network for PMSE purposes. Commercial base stations and LTE terminals were used in the trial. The proprietary PMSE equipment was emulated in the trial with a DVB-T/DVB-T2 transmission and Samsung S8 phones streaming video served as LTE-based PMSE equipment.

Spectrum manager orchestrates the operation of the different systems on 2.3 GHz shared band. PMSE system information is collected with a web-based reservation system, where the users of the devices can make reservations for their intended use. The reservation system has been piloted in the Netherlands in 2017–2018 [34]. The control of the PMSE devices also takes place through the reservation system so that the user of the devices is informed about the required spectrum use changes and the user has to deploy the configuration changes in their devices.



**Figure 3.** Spectrum demonstration architecture.

Both PMSE LTE and MNO LTE systems have a direct machine-to-machine (M2M) interface between the radio equipment and the spectrum manager. The priority order considered in the trial is as follows, from highest to lowest: PMSE, PMSE LTE, and MNO LTE. When the priority user changes the configuration of the LTE network, a notification about the change is automatically received in the spectrum manager. The spectrum manager processes the changed spectrum situation and evaluates if the lower priority use may cause harmful interference to the higher priority use. If there is a risk of interference, the spectrum manager evaluates which changes would be required to accommodate the higher priority use and to maintain the best possible service level also for the lower priority use.

On the high level, interference mitigation is implemented so that if there are frequency channels available, the lower priority use is transferred to those channels. If there are no other channels available, the power level of the secondary user is reduced or the transmission is denied. In this demonstration, the higher priority user is able to select the frequency channel to be used. An option for this could be that the higher priority user has the right to the spectrum resource in the band, but the specific frequency channel is determined by the spectrum manager.

The main target of the performed trial is to demonstrate the LSA evolution functions developed to the spectrum manager to enable dynamic spectrum sharing between users with different levels of priority. The steps performed in the trial were:

1. MNO LTE1 (700 MHz) and MNO LTE2 (2.3 GHz) serving users (web surfing, video streaming).
2. PMSE LTE (2.3 GHz) turns on as a rapidly deployable network for PMSE, and spectrum is available for both MNO LTE2 and PMSE LTE.
3. PMSE user registers to the spectrum manager registration system, on the frequency currently in use for PMSE LTE.
4. MNO LTE2 limits its transmission power (if necessary) to follow interference limits, and the users remain connected to at least B28 (700 MHz) base station.
5. PMSE LTE changes channel to give space to PMSE.
6. Proprietary PMSE equipment turns on.

Corresponding snapshots of the 2.3 GHz spectrum band are illustrated in **Figure 4**. First, the lowest priority LTE service, such as SDL of MNO LTE2, operates in the band. Then, PMSE using rapidly deployable LTE air interface (PMSE LTE) requests for spectrum. At the same time, there is enough free spectrum for both to operate. Then, the proprietary PMSE equipment requests for spectrum, and the spectrum manager allocates suitable frequencies and power levels for all users. If necessary, MNO LTE2 adjusts the transmission power according to regulated interference limits to allow for the operation of higher priority users. Also, PMSE LTE that is controlled by the spectrum manager via M2M interface switches frequency (e.g., due to the limitations of proprietary PMSE equipment tuning range). Finally, all three networks operate on the shared spectrum without causing interference to each other.

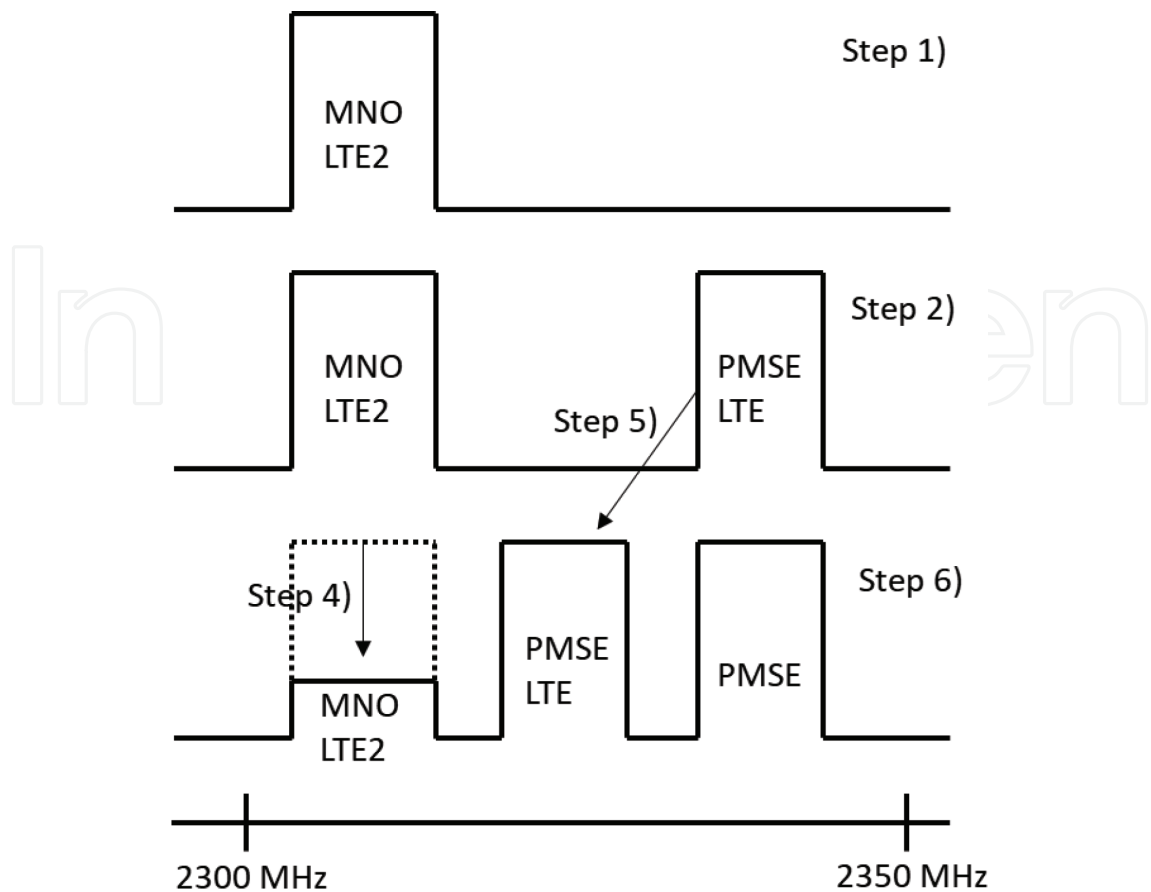


Figure 4. 2.3 GHz spectrum use corresponding to trial steps.

## 5. LSA evolution in 5G networks

A mobile service of a mobile network operator consists of different mobile network technologies, like GSM, WCDMA, LTE, and 5G. Each of the technologies, especially LTE, has several frequency bands. The bands below 1 GHz are coverage bands, and the bands above 2 GHz are capacity bands. The capacity bands are available only in densely populated areas.

Mobile phones primarily make the decision which technology and which band(s) they use. The availability of the LSA secondary bands cannot be guaranteed at any time or location, but the situation does not differ much from the availability of the capacity bands, when considering the availability of the bands from the mobile device perspective. At an arbitrary location and time, only a part of the deployed technologies and frequency bands are available for a specific mobile device. The generic secondary LSA spectrum use fits best to 5G enhanced Mobile Broadband (eMBB).

The original LSA was developed to allow mobile as a secondary user on the bands, which have other types of priority users. The recent development in ETSI RRS considers LSA for local high-quality networks. The main issue to ensure a guarantee of quality is to have a sharing agreement, where the LSA user is the primary user and is protected from interference.

When the LSA users have a primary status and when they are protected from interference, LSA can be used also for 5G Ultrareliable Low-Latency Communication (URLLC).

When the 5G massive Machine-Type Communication (mMTC) is deployed in coverage networks, LSA may not be the best solution, as the spectrum sharing in the coverage bands is not as beneficial as in the capacity bands. On the other hand, many of the sub-GHz wide-area IoT networks operate on license-exempt bands, which cannot guarantee quality of service either.

The LSA spectrum sharing does not change mobility or handovers in the mobile networks compared to non-LSA mobile networks. The main issue in this respect is the graceful shutdown. The sharing agreement may allow a reasonable delay, i.e., several minutes or more, between the moment information that the primary user requiring interference protection arrives and the moment when the interference protection has to be carried out in the LSA system. In that case, the operations, administration, and maintenance (OAM) of the mobile network can force the mobile to non-LSA bands before the LSA system deploys the interference protection in the LSA band. The graceful shutdown is not a part of the LSA system but rather a feature of the OAM.

## 6. Conclusion

This chapter has discussed why spectrum sharing is needed and introduced the LSA concept developed to provide a predictable QoS and exclusive access to shared spectrum resources. The first phase of LSA development and standardization created a somewhat static system and rules for the use of LSA in the 2.3–2.4 GHz frequency band. This version of LSA is best suited to facilitate access to sub-6 GHz frequency bands where the existing incumbents are not efficiently using their spectral resources.

However, the novel use cases in 5G require a more dynamic access to the spectrum and novel solutions for coordinated control and spectrum management. Spectrum sensing techniques are needed to provide the more dynamic access to spectrum, as the current version of LSA and its static spectrum allocations are insufficient for this. The spectrum sensing techniques however still need to evolve to be able to guarantee protection from harmful interference.

The development of LSA evolution is underway, and the other new concepts needed for LSA evolution include short-term license periods, possibility to allocate spectrum locally, and support for co-primary sharing, which can guarantee the QoS from spectrum perspective. The chapter also described a demonstration of LSA evolution system with spectrum user prioritization, which was created for 5G PMSE use case.

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