# GLOBAL JOURNAL OF ADVANCED ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGIES AND SCIENCES

# A REDUCED SPACE COMBINED WITH TABU SEARCH FOR SOLVING THE CHANNEL ALLOCATION PROBLEM

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**DOI**: 10.5281/zenodo.1163157

# ABSTRACT

With the rapid growth of mobile communications, solving the channel assignment problem has now become a new challenge in research. In this paper, we present an efficient technique for solving the Channel Assignment Problem (CAP). We first map a given CAP, P, to a smaller subset P' of cells of the network, which actually reduces the search space. This reduction is done using a multi-colouring method. Then the tabu search algorithm is applied to solve the new problem P'. This method reduces the computing time drastically. The latter is then used to solve the original problem by using a modified forced assignment with rearrangement (FAR) operation. The proposed method has been tested on well known benchmark problems. Optimal solutions have been obtained with zero blocked calls for all the cases with improved computation time. Furthermore, there are many unused frequencies which can be used for changes in demands.

KEYWORDS: Channel Allocation Problem, FAR, Tabu Search.

## INTRODUCTION

Mobile communications are evolving rapidly with the progress of wireless communications and mobile computing. However, the frequency bandwidth is limited and an efficient use of channel frequencies becomes more and more important. The bandwidth spectrum is divided into a number of channels depending on service requirements. To satisfy high demand of mobile users, channels have to be assigned and re-used to minimize communication interference, thus increasing traffic carrying capacity. This is known as the channel assignment problem (CAP). In other words, the CAP is considered to be the generalised graph colouring problem, which is a well known NP-complete problem [13]. In this paper we assume a cellular network system where the demands of the cells are known a priori, and the channels are to be allocated to the cells statistically to cater sessions that are basically connection oriented. Here, the major aim is to reuse channels in cells while avoiding interference. A channel can be used by multiple base stations if the minimum distance at which two signals of the same frequency do not interfere.

Much research have been devoted to CAP in the past decades and many methods have been proposed, namely graph theory based methods [25, 3, 13, 10], simulated annealing [7], tabu search [5, 4], neural networks [15] and genetic algorithms [2, 11, 19]. This earlier work can be broadly classified into two categories. The first category algorithm determines an ordered list of calls and then assigns channels deterministically to the calls to minimise the required bandwidth [21, 14, 1, 6, 8]. The algorithms for the second category formulate a cost function, such as the number of blocked calls by a given channel assignment, and tries to minimise it with a given bandwidth of the system [7, 15, 18, 22, 17]. In the first category of algorithms, the derived channel assignment always fulfills all the interference constraints for a given demand. On the other hand it may be difficult to find an optimal solutions for large and difficult problems. For the second category of algorithms, it may be difficult to minimise the cost function to the desired value of zero for the hard problems, with the minimum number of channels. To evaluate the performance of these algorithms, well known benchmark problems have been solved. These benchmark problems will be discussed in details in the next section. The novelty in this paper is the presentation of the CAP P in a reduced space P' which is derived using a multi-colouring method. The authors in [11] have used a completely different technique in grouping the cells. Our technique groups the cells into independent sets. This helps in solving the reduced space more efficiently and in this paper a tabu search algorithm is used [12]. It has been seen from literature that the ordering of cells is very important in assigning channels and thus the CAP can be seen as a permutation problem. An efficient way for solving such problems is the tabu search algorithm. Once the solution of P' is found, the solution is expanded to the solution of the original problem P. However to solve the original problem P, a FAR algorithm [23] is applied. This method drastically reduces the computation time. Also redundant frequencies are found so that these can be used in case there are some changes in the demand vector. Our aim is to minimize the blocked calls given the required bandwidth and on the other hand one can also maximise the use of the redundant frequencies.

The paper is structured as follows: section 2 gives the mathematical formulation of the CAP, section 3 presents the tabu search algorithm, section 4 shows how the CAP is reduced and section 5 explains the FAR algorithm. Simulation results are discussed in section 6 and finally we draw some concluding remarks.

### MATEMATICAL FORMULATION OF CAP

The CAP in cellular networks is an NP-complete problem [13]. It has been modelled as an optimization problem with binary solutions. The problem is characterized by a number of cells and a number of channels n and f respectively. It must fulfill the following three constraints [10]:

- 1. The Co-Channel Constraint (CCC): The same channel cannot be assigned to a pair of cells within a specified distance simultaneously.
- 2. The Adjacent Channel Constraint (ACC): Adjacent Channels cannot be assigned to adjacent cells simultaneously.
- 3. The Co-site Constraint (CSC): The distance between any pair of channels used in the same cell must be larger than a specified distance.

In 1982, Gamst and Rave [10] defined the general form of the CAP in an arbitrary inhomogeneous cellular network. In their definition, the compatibility constraints in an *n* - cell network are described by an  $n \times n$  symmetric matrix called the compatibility matrix  $C = [c_{ij}]$ . Each non-diagonal element  $c_{ij}$  in *C* represents the minimum separation distance in the frequency domain between a frequency assigned to a cell *i* and one assigned to cell *j*. If  $c_{ij} = 0$ , it means that a channel assigned to cell *i* can be reused to cell *j*;  $c_{ii} = s$  means the co-site channel interference constraint is *s* channels.  $c_{ij} = 1$  means that the adjacent channel interference constraint is one channel. The channel requirements are described by an n-element vector which is called the demand vector *D*. Each element  $d_i$  in *D* represents the number of frequencies to be assigned to cell *i*. The solution of the CAP is represented by a matrix *F*. Each element of the matrix is defined according to the following expression:

$$a_{ii} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if channel } j \text{ is assigned to cell} \\ 0 & 1 & \dots \end{cases}$$

$$0$$
 otherwise

Let the frequencies be represented by positive integers 1, 2, 3,..., *f* where *f* is a maximum allocation of the spectrum bandwidth. The mathematical model can be represented as follows [21, 24]:

- 1. *n*: Number of cells in the network.
- 2.  $d_i$ : Number of frequencies required in cell i ( $1 \le i \le n$ ) in order to satisfy channel demand.
- 3. *C*: Compatibility matrix,  $C = (c_{ij})$  denotes the frequency

i

- separation required between cell *i* and cell *j*.
- 4.  $f_{ik}$ : Channel is assigned to  $k^{th}$  call in cell *i*.

Therefore the objective of CAP is

$$\min_{i,k} f_{ik}, \text{ subject to } \left| f_{ik} - f_{jr} \right| \ge c_{ij} \forall i, j, k \neq r.$$

The channel assignment problem in the cellular network is to find a conflict free assignment with the minimum number of total frequencies, where C and D are given, in other words one tries to find the minimum of

$$\max_{i \mid k} f_{il}$$

Given the above constraints, the CAP can be represented by means of a graph G, where the k-<sup>th</sup> call to cell *i* is represented as a node  $U_{ik}$  and the nodes  $U_{ik}$  and  $U_{ir}$  are connected by an edge with weight  $c_{ii}$  if  $c_{ii} > 0$ . Then,

the channels are assigned to the nodes of the CAP graph in a specific order and a node will be assigned the channel corresponding to the smallest integer that will satisfy the frequency separation constraints with all the previously assigned nodes. Thus one can conclude that the ordering of the nodes is a key factor on the required bandwidth. Let us assume that there exists m nodes in the CAP graph, where m is defined as the total demand, in other words

$$m = \sum_{i=1}^{n} d_i$$
. Therefore the nodes can be ordered in  $m^{!}$  ways and finding the optimal ordering is an exhaustive

task. In this paper we have used a tabu search adapted from [12] which is an efficient algorithm for solving permutation problems.

### TABU SEARCH APPROACH

Tabu search is a heuristic method originally presented by Glover and Laguna [12]. It is a procedure to explore the solution space beyond optimality and exploits the past history of the search in order to influence its future steps. A distinguishing feature of tabu search is embodied in its exploitation of adaptive forms of memory, which equips it to penetrate complexities that often confound alternative approaches. We have adapted the tabu search algorithm described in [16] which deals with permutation neighborhood. We shall now describe the types of insert moves

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and neighborhood that has been used in the tabu search. Denoting p to be a random ordering of the n cells. The Insert-Move( $p_j$ ; i) function consists of deleting  $p_j$  from its current position j to be inserted in position i. Thus one gets the following ordering p' as shown in (1)

$$p' = \begin{cases} (p_1, \dots, p_{i-1}, p_j, p_i, \dots, p_{j-1}, p_{j+1}, \dots, p_n) \text{ for } i < j, \\ p_1, \dots, p_{j-1}, p_{j+1}, \dots, p_i, p_j, p_{i+1}, \dots, p_n) \text{ for } i > j. \end{cases}$$
(1)

Pairwise exchanges or moves are frequently used as one of the ways to define neighbourhoods in permutation problems; identifying moves that lead from one sequence to the next. The neighbourhood N comprises all permutations resulting from executing general insertion moves and is defined as

$$N = \begin{cases} p': \text{Insert-Move}(p_j, i), \text{ for } j = 1,...,n & (2) \\ \text{and } i = 1,2,...,j-1, j+1,...,n & (3) \end{cases}$$

We define a *first* strategy, that scans the list of cells (in the order given by the current permutation) in search for the first cell  $(p_f)$  whose movement results in a strictly positive move value. The move selected by the *first* strategy is then Insert-Move $(p_f; i^*_{-})$ , where  $i^*$  is the position that gives the best move value. The local search is based on choosing the best insertion associated with a given cell. The tabu search procedure starts by generating a random procedure p, and it alternates between an intensification and a diversification phase. The main aim of the search intensification is to explore more thoroughly the portions of the search space that seem "promising" in order to ensure that the best solutions in these areas are indeed found.

Intensification is based on some intermediate term memory, such as a recency memory, in which one records the number of consecutive iterations that various solutions components have been present in the current solution without interruption. The intensification phase starts by a random selection of a cell. The probability of selecting a cell *j* is proportional to some weight  $w_j$ . For our problem, we assign higher weights to those cells having a higher demand. The weight is given as

$$w_j = \frac{d_j}{\sum_{j=1}^n d_j}.$$

The move Insert-Move  $(p_i, i) \in N^j$  with the largest move value is selected and it becomes the tabu-active for

TabuTenure iterations. The number of times that cell *j* has been chosen to be moved is accumulated in the value freq(j). This frequency information is used for diversification purposes. The intensification phase is terminated after a maximum of a predefined number of iterations is executed without improvement. Before ending this phase, the first(N) procedure is applied to the best solution which is denoted by  $\hat{p}$ .

Diversification phase is an algorithmic mechanism that forces the search into previously unexplored areas of the search space. It is usually based on some form of long term memory of a sector and in our case it is the frequency memory in which one records the total number of iterations that various solution components have been present in the current solution. At each iteration of the diversification phase, a sector is selected randomly and the probability of selecting sector j is inversely proportional to the frequency count freq(j). The chosen sector is placed in the best position, as determined by the move values associated with the insert moves in  $N_j$ . This procedure is repeated for a maximum number of iterations.

#### CONSTRUCTION OF THE REDUCED SPACE

In this section we describe how the CAP graph *G* is reduced into a smaller space and we use tabu search to find an optimal solution which is then considered to solve the original CAP problem. Our aim is to find out independent sets of cells by the multicolouring method. Let us assume that *G* denotes the adjacency graph of the  $n \times n$  matrix  $C_{i, j=1,...,n}$  and has a vertex set V(G) and edge set E(G). We say that  $(i, j) \in E(G)$  (i; j) if and only if  $c_{ij} \neq 0$ . A node or vertex *i* is said to be connected to node *j* if  $j \in adj(i)$  where  $adj(i) = \{j | (i, j)\} \in E(G)$ . The degree of vertex *i* is the size of its adjacency set (adj(i)). A *proper colouring* of *G* is an assignment of colours to vertices such that no two end points of any edge share the same colour. A set *S* is said to be an independent set of V(G)if  $i \in S$  then  $(i, j) \in E(G)$  or  $(j, i) \in E(G) \} \rightarrow j \notin S$ . Thus the elements in *S* cannot be connected among themselves. Independent sets can be obtained by applying the multicolouring of an arbitrary graph. Initially a random permutation of the cells is obtained. The algorithm then assigns a colour of zero to each node *i*. Then, it traverses the graph in the natural order and assigns the smallest positive admissible colour to each node i visited. Here, an admissible colour is a colour not already assigned to any neighbour of node i.

Greedy Multi Colouring Algorithm

Set Colour(i) = 0; i = ,..., Nfor i = 1 : NColour(i) = min{ $l > 0 | j \neq Colour(j)$ , for all  $j \in adj(i)$ } end

The end result of the algorithm is that each node i will be assigned the colour *Colour*(i). The algorithm stops until all the nodes have been visited.

After having obtained the independent sets, we then form the reduced compatibility matrix. We then apply the tabu search algorithm to assign the frequencies to the reduced space. We shall illustrate our method by means of an example, problem 3 in Table 4 from the Philadelphia benchmark problems. The CAP, *P*, has been formulated on a 21-cell system whose compatibility matrix *C* and the demand vector *D*1 is shown in Tables 1 and Tables 3 respectively. Denoting S (i) to be the set of all cells that are not connected, we illustrate an example for the problem described above. Suppose after applying the multi-colouring algorithm, we obtain the following:  $S(1) = \{5,7,21\}$ , S (2) =  $\{10.19\}$ , S (3) =  $\{9,12,14\}$ , S (4) =  $\{8,13,18\}$ , S (5) =  $\{3,15\}$ , S (6) =  $\{6,20\}$ , S (7) =  $\{1,17\}$ , S (8) =  $\{2,11\}$  and S (9) =  $\{4,16\}$ . From the set *S* we now construct the compatibility matrix *C'* = c'(i', j') as follows.

We get c' = (1,2) = 1 being the maximum among all the  $c_{i,i}$  where  $i \in S(1) = \{8,21\}$  and  $j \in S(2) = \{10,15\}$ . We

thus obtain the elements of C' as shown in Table 2. In this example we can find that the demand for the elements in S (1) are 12, 30 and 25. The maximum demand is 30. Similarly the demand for S (2) = 40, S (3) = 45, S (4) = 30, S (5) 25, S (6) = 25, S (7) = 15, S (8) = 40, and S (9) = 15. Thus the modified demand vector D' = (30,40,45,30,25,25,15,40,15). The new problem P' is represented by the following components:

- 1. a set  $S = \{S(1), \dots, S(z)\}, (1 \le i \le z)$  of z distinct nodes, where z is the number of S (i) subsets.
- 2. a demand vector  $D' = (d'_1, \dots, d'_r)$ .
- 3. a compatibility matrix C' = c'(i', j').
- 4. a frequency assignment matrix F'.
- 5. a set of frequency separation constraints specified by the frequency separation matrix  $|f'_{ik} f'_{il}|$  for all
  - *i*, *j*, *k*, *l* (except for i = j and k = l).

Once P' is constructed as above, the aim is to find an assignment F' for this P'. We describe how the CAP is solved using the tabu search algorithm. First, we define the blocked calls; they are the number of calls without an allocated frequency and the lower the number of blocked calls the better solution. Our aim is to minimize the number of blocked calls. We start our simulation by a random ordering or permutation of the cells and the tabu search is applied as shown in the algorithm below.

#### Procedure to apply the algorithm

Generate a random permutation order of the the elements of S. for j = 1 to maxiter Apply intensification phase. Apply first(N). Apply diversification phase. Calculate solution matrix F. [calculate number of blocked calls]. If number of blocked calls = 0, break loop. Calculate maxglob iterations > 5 end j Calculate blocked calls. Continue the process 200 times.

| Table 1: Compatibility Matrix for Problem 3  |   |
|--|---|
|  | 0 |
| 1 7 1 1 0 0 1 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 0 0 0  | 0 |
| 1 1 7 1 1 0 0 1 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 0 0  | 0 |
| 0 1 1 7 1 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 1 1 0 0  | 0 |
| 0 0 1 1 7 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 1 0 0  | 0 |
| 1 0 0 0 0 7 1 1 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 0  | 0 |
| 1 1 0 0 0 1 7 1 1 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 0 0 1 0  | 0 |
| 1 1 1 0 0 1 1 7 1 1 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 0 1 1  | 0 |
| 1 1 1 1 0 0 1 1 7 1 1 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 1 1  | 1 |
| 0 1 1 1 1 0 0 1 1 7 1 1 0 0 0 1 1 1 0 1  | 1 |
| 0 0 1 1 1 0 0 0 1 1 7 1 0 0 0 0 1 1 0 0  | 1 |
| 0 0 0 1 1 0 0 0 0 1 1 7 0 0 0 0 1 0 0  | 0 |
| 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 0 0 0 0 7 1 1 0 0 0 0 0  | 0 |
| 1 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 1 7 1 1 0 0 1 0  | 0 |
| 1 1 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 0 0 0 1 1 7 1 1 0 1 1  | 0 |
| 1 1 1 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 0 0 0 1 1 7 1 1 1 1  | 1 |
| 0 1 1 1 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 0 0 0 1 1 7 1 1 1  | 1 |
| 0 0 1 1 1 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 0 0 0 1 1 7 0 1  | 1 |
| 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 0 7 1  | 1 |
| 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 7  | 1 |
| 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 1  | 7 |
| T-11-2. Come dilite Matin D'for Decharge 2   |   |
| Table 2: Compatibility Matrix P' for Problem 3           7         1         1         1         1         1 | • |
|  |   |
| $\begin{array}{c} 1 & 7 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 7 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{array}$                |   |
|  |   |
|  |   |
| $\begin{array}{c}1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\$  |   |
| $\begin{array}{c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 7 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 7 & 1 & 1 \end{array}$            |   |
| $\begin{array}{c}1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\$  |   |
| $1 \ 1 \ 1 \ 1 \ 1 \ 0 \ 1 \ 7 \ 1 \\ 1 \ 1 \ 1 \ 1 \ 1 \ 1 \ 1 \ 7 \ 1$                                     |   |
| 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 7  |   |

Now we need to apply the FAR algorithm to solve the original CAP problem with a view that our objective is to minimise the number of blocked calls. The assignment F' may or may not be admissible depending on the available bandwidth. To derive the required channels for the CAP, we have adapted the method found in [11]. They considered the following two cases:

1. An assignment F' is admissible: For this case, an admissible frequency for the original problem can be derived using F' and the following result [11]:

Given the CAP problem P and the bandwidth, if the frequency assignments F' for P' are admissible, an admissible frequency can be derived from F'. To get an assignment F, all the cells in S(i);  $1 \le i \le z$  are assigned the same set of channels. This assignment must satisfy the interference constraints because in P', c'(i', j') is the maximum among all the terms  $c_{ij}$ 's in C, where  $i \ i \in S(i)$  and  $j \in S(j)$ . This assignment must also satisfy the demand vector  $D = d_i$ , since we choose the maximum among all those cells found in S(i). When applying this procedure, one also gets some redundant frequencies. Suppose if cell i has been assigned  $d'_i$  channels where the demand for that cell was  $d_i$  and  $d'_i > d(i)$ , then  $r_i = (d'_i - d_i)$  number of frequencies remains unused or redundant in cell i.

2. Assignment F' is not admissible: For this case the requirements for P'. Let us assume F' that satisfies the demand vector  $D'' = (d''_i)$  i) instead of D', where  $d''_i < d'_i$  for some *i*. If we assign all the cells in *S* (*i*) the same set of channels to the cells in *S* (*i*), there may be some blocked calls in some cells and redundant calls in some other cells. We denote the blocked calls and redundant frequencies as follows:  $BL = (b_i)$  and  $R = (r_j)$ , respectively, where  $b_i = d_i - d''_i$  if  $d''_i < d_i$  and 0 otherwise, and  $r_j = (d''_j - d_j)$ , if  $d''_j > d_j$  and 0 otherwise. We use these redundant frequencies in *R* and other available free channels to assign the blocked calls by using the FAR approach described in [14].

We give a brief description of the modified FAR algorithm. Let  $b_i$  be an unassigned requirement and Q be the set of already assigned frequencies. Suppose that from the set  $b_i$  there is no frequency available to be assigned without

any conflict to the set Q. The modified FAR tries to assign a frequency in L (where L is the given list of available frequencies) to satisfy the requirement  $b_i$  with minimum change or perturbation on the present assignment Q. The main aim of modified FAR is to identify a minimal subset  $b_i$ 's of Q, where each requirement can be reassigned simultaneously with an alternative feasible frequency so that  $b_i$  can be assigned a frequency without conflict to the present assignment Q. Denoting  $B(b_i; f_i)$  to be the subset of requirements in Q, which are conflicting and we assign frequency  $f_i$  to requirement  $b_i$ . In other words, fi becomes a feasible frequency for  $b_i$  if the frequency assignments for  $B(b_i; f_i)$  are undone. To identify one element of  $S(b_i)$ , we examine a sequence of  $f_i$ 's such that each time a  $B(b_i; f_i)$  is generated, we undo the corresponding portion of frequency assignment in Q and try to assign an alternative feasible frequency in L which is feasible to the present assignments in Q. If the frequency assignment of  $B(b_i; f_i)$  is successfully made,  $B(b_i; f_i)$  becomes  $S(b_i)$  itself. In case such a frequency reassignment cannot be made for some  $b_i \in B(b_i, f_i)$ , one proceeds to identify  $B(b_i; f_i)$  and attempts to assign an

alternative feasible frequency to each  $b_k \in B(b_i, f_i)$ . Such  $B(b_i; f_i)$  are blockers at the second depth level. In our

paper, we have used the (B1 - D1); (B2 - D1) and (B1 - D2). This modified FAR actually assigns a free channel to an unassigned requirement, say  $t \in BL$ . We consider a channel to be free and suitable to be assigned to t even if it conflicts with the requirements of some other cells containing some redundant channels. However, when we choose such a channel for assigning it to t, we may need to undo some of the assignments in neighbouring cells and adjust the assignments in other cells as well as keeping the degree of perturbation as low as possible.

#### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

The new method described has been tested on eightbenchmark problems. The cellular structure is shown in Figure 1. Different cases have been considered with different interference constraints and demand vectors as shown in Table 3 and Table 4. The parameters shown in the tables have been explained in section 2.

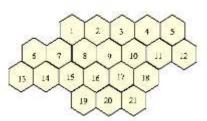


Figure 1: Structure of cellular systems.

|       | Table 3: Demand Vectors D1 and D2. |          |          |                 |          |          |          |  |  |  |  |  |
|-------|------------------------------------|----------|----------|-----------------|----------|----------|----------|--|--|--|--|--|
|       | $d_1$                              | $d_2$    | $d_3$    | $d_4$           | $d_5$    | $d_6$    | $d_7$    |  |  |  |  |  |
| $D_1$ | 8                                  | 25       | 8        | 8               | 8        | 15       | 18       |  |  |  |  |  |
| $D_2$ | 5                                  | 5        | 8        | 12              | 25       | 25       | 30       |  |  |  |  |  |
|       | $d_8$                              | $d_9$    | $d_{10}$ | d <sub>11</sub> | $d_{12}$ | $d_{13}$ | $d_{14}$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| $D_1$ | 52                                 | 77       | 28       | 13              | 15       | 31       | 15       |  |  |  |  |  |
| $D_2$ | 25                                 | 30       | 40       | 40              | 45       | 20       | 30       |  |  |  |  |  |
|       | $d_{15}$                           | $d_{16}$ | $d_{17}$ | $d_{18}$        | $d_{19}$ | $d_{20}$ | $d_{21}$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| $D_1$ | 36                                 | 57       | 28       | 8               | 20       | 13       | 8        |  |  |  |  |  |
| $D_2$ | 25                                 | 15       | 15       | 30              | 20       | 20       | 25       |  |  |  |  |  |

From the example discussed in the previous section we obtain the solution for the reduced space as shown in Table 5. To obtain Table 6 we use the set S as follows: the cells in each element of S(i),  $1 \le i \le 8$  are assigned the same channels. For example the same channels are assigned to cell 8 and 21. We thus obtain the following assignment as shown in Table 6. From literature, it has been seen that problems 2 and 6 are the most difficult to solve [2, 11]. The result for problem 8 is shown in Table 7 before applying the modified FAR. From Table 7 we find that the demand is not met for cells 7, 8, 10, 13, 14, 16, 17, 19 and 21. So we need to apply the modified FAR so as to assign the frequencies to those cells so as to meet the required demand. The results after applying the modified FAR is shown in Table 8. The computation was done using a personal computer of the following specifications: processor: Intel(R) Core(TM) 2 Duo CPU T5800 @ 2.00 Ghz 2.00 Ghz, RAM 2GB. To show that the reduction of the space has decreased the complexity and the computation time, we have run the different problems with and without reducing the space. A number of times the problem was run and the average time was calculated. The computation time for each problem is shown in Table 9.

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| Problem        | 1     | 2     | 3     | 4     |
|----------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| a.c.c          | 1     | 2     | 1     | 2     |
| c.s.c          | 5     | 5     | 7     | 7     |
| $D_{1}/D_{2}$  | $D_1$ | $D_1$ | $D_1$ | $D_1$ |
| Lower<br>bound | 381   | 427   | 533   | 533   |
| Problem        | 5     | 6     | 7     | 8     |
| a.c.c          | 1     | 2     | 1     | 2     |
| c.s.c          | 5     | 5     | 7     | 7     |
| $D_1/D_2$      | $D_2$ | $D_2$ | $D_2$ | $D_2$ |
| Lower<br>Bound | 221   | 253   | 309   | 309   |

 Table 4: Different Problem cases

| 5<br>12<br>19<br>26<br>33<br>40<br>47<br>54<br>61<br>68<br>75<br>82<br>89<br>96<br>103<br>110<br>117<br>124<br>131<br>138<br>145<br>152<br>159<br>166<br>173<br>180<br>187<br>194<br>201<br>208 | $\begin{array}{c} 7\\ 14\\ 21\\ 28\\ 35\\ 42\\ 49\\ 56\\ 63\\ 70\\ 77\\ 84\\ 91\\ 98\\ 105\\ 112\\ 119\\ 126\\ 133\\ 140\\ 147\\ 154\\ 161\\ 168\\ 175\\ 182\\ 189\\ 196\\ 203\\ 210\\ 217\\ 224\\ 231\\ 238\\ 245\\ 252\\ 259\\ 266\\ 273\\ 280\\ \end{array}$ | $\begin{matrix} 1 \\ 8 \\ 15 \\ 22 \\ 29 \\ 36 \\ 43 \\ 50 \\ 57 \\ 64 \\ 71 \\ 78 \\ 85 \\ 92 \\ 99 \\ 106 \\ 113 \\ 120 \\ 127 \\ 134 \\ 141 \\ 148 \\ 155 \\ 162 \\ 169 \\ 176 \\ 183 \\ 190 \\ 197 \\ 204 \\ 211 \\ 218 \\ 225 \\ 232 \\ 239 \\ 246 \\ 253 \\ 260 \\ 267 \\ 274 \\ 281 \\ 288 \\ 285 \\ 260 \\ 267 \\ 274 \\ 281 \\ 288 \\ 285 \\ 2$ | 4<br>11<br>18<br>25<br>32<br>39<br>46<br>53<br>60<br>67<br>74<br>81<br>88<br>95<br>102<br>109<br>116<br>123<br>130<br>137<br>144<br>151<br>158<br>165<br>172<br>179<br>186<br>193<br>200<br>207 | 2<br>9<br>16<br>23<br>30<br>37<br>44<br>51<br>58<br>65<br>72<br>79<br>86<br>93<br>100<br>107<br>114<br>121<br>128<br>135<br>142<br>149<br>156<br>163<br>170 | 6<br>13<br>20<br>27<br>34<br>41<br>48<br>55<br>62<br>69<br>76<br>83<br>90<br>97<br>104<br>111<br>118<br>125<br>132<br>139<br>146<br>153<br>160<br>167<br>174 | 108<br>115<br>122<br>129<br>136<br>143<br>150<br>157<br>164<br>171<br>178<br>185<br>192<br>199<br>206 | $\begin{array}{c} 6\\ 13\\ 20\\ 27\\ 34\\ 41\\ 48\\ 55\\ 62\\ 69\\ 76\\ 83\\ 90\\ 97\\ 104\\ 111\\ 118\\ 125\\ 132\\ 139\\ 146\\ 153\\ 160\\ 167\\ 174\\ 181\\ 188\\ 195\\ 202\\ 209\\ 216\\ 223\\ 230\\ 237\\ 244\\ 251\\ 258\\ 265\\ 272\\ 279\\ \end{array}$ | 3<br>10<br>17<br>24<br>31<br>38<br>45<br>52<br>59<br>66<br>73<br>80<br>87<br>94<br>101 |
|---|---|--|---|---|--|---|---|--|
|   |   | 274<br>281   |   |   |  |   |   |  |

|   |  |   |   |  |   | Tab   | <u>le 6:</u> (   | <u>Chann</u>  | iel As   | signm  | ent P   | ' for p  | oroble  | <u>m 3</u>  |  |   |   |   |   |  |
|---|--|---|---|--|---|---|--|---|--|--|---|--|---|---|--|---|---|---|---|--|
| 108<br>115<br>122<br>129<br>136<br>143<br>150<br>157<br>164<br>171<br>178<br>185<br>192<br>199<br>206   | 6<br>13<br>20<br>27<br>34<br>41<br>48<br>55<br>62<br>69<br>90<br>97<br>104<br>111<br>118<br>125<br>132<br>139<br>146<br>153<br>160<br>167<br>174<br>181<br>188<br>189<br>200<br>217<br>244<br>258<br>265<br>272<br>279<br>278<br>278<br>278<br>278<br>278<br>278<br>278<br>278     | 2<br>9<br>16<br>23<br>30<br>37<br>44<br>51<br>58<br>65<br>72<br>79<br>86<br>93<br>100<br>107<br>114<br>128<br>135<br>149<br>156<br>163<br>170 | <i>3</i><br>10<br>17<br>24<br>31<br>38<br>45<br>52<br>59<br>66<br>73<br>80<br>87<br>94<br>101   | <i>s</i><br>12<br>19<br>26<br>33<br>40<br>47<br>54<br>61<br>68<br>75<br>82<br>89<br>96<br>103<br>110<br>117<br>124<br>131<br>138<br>145<br>152<br>159<br>166<br>173<br>180<br>187<br>194<br>201<br>208 | 6<br>13<br>20<br>27<br>34<br>41<br>48<br>55<br>62<br>69<br>76<br>83<br>90<br>97<br>104<br>111<br>118<br>125<br>132<br>139<br>146<br>153<br>160<br>167<br>174  | <i>s</i><br>12<br>19<br>26<br>33<br>40<br>47<br>54<br>61<br>68<br>75<br>82<br>89<br>96<br>103<br>110<br>117<br>124<br>131<br>138<br>145<br>152<br>159<br>166<br>173<br>180<br>187<br>194<br>208 | 4<br>11<br>18<br>25<br>32<br>39<br>46<br>53<br>60<br>67<br>74<br>81<br>88<br>95<br>109<br>116<br>123<br>130<br>137<br>144<br>151<br>158<br>165<br>172<br>179<br>186<br>193<br>200<br>207 | I           8           15           22           29           36           43           50           64           71           78           85           92           99           106           113           120           127           134           141           148           155           162           176           1890           197           204           169           197           204           232           239           246           253           2600           267           274           281           284           295           302           309 | 7<br>14<br>21<br>28<br>35<br>42<br>49<br>56<br>63<br>70<br>77<br>84<br>91<br>99<br>126<br>63<br>70<br>77<br>84<br>105<br>112<br>119<br>61<br>133<br>140<br>147<br>154<br>161<br>154<br>161<br>155<br>182<br>213<br>210<br>228<br>233<br>240<br>245<br>259<br>266<br>273<br>280 | 6<br>13<br>20<br>27<br>34<br>41<br>48<br>55<br>62<br>69<br>90<br>97<br>104<br>111<br>118<br>125<br>132<br>139<br>146<br>153<br>160<br>167<br>174<br>181<br>188<br>189<br>209<br>216<br>237<br>244<br>257<br>279<br>278<br>278<br>278<br>278<br>278<br>278<br>278<br>278  | I<br>8<br>15<br>22<br>29<br>36<br>43<br>50<br>57<br>64<br>71<br>78<br>85<br>92<br>99<br>106<br>113<br>120<br>127<br>134<br>148<br>155<br>169<br>176<br>183<br>190<br>197<br>204<br>211<br>218<br>225<br>239<br>246<br>253<br>260<br>267<br>274<br>281<br>285<br>309<br>309<br>309<br>309<br>309<br>309<br>309<br>309                      | 4<br>11<br>18<br>25<br>32<br>39<br>46<br>53<br>60<br>67<br>74<br>81<br>88<br>95<br>109<br>116<br>123<br>130<br>137<br>144<br>151<br>158<br>165<br>172<br>179<br>186<br>193<br>200<br>207 | I 8 15 22 29 36 43 50 64 71 78 85 92 99 106 113 120 127 134 141 141 155 162 21 134 155 162 239 246 183 260 267 72 241 281 288 255 302 309 | <b>2</b><br>9<br>16<br>23<br>30<br>37<br>44<br>51<br>58<br>65<br>72<br>79<br>86<br>93<br>100<br>017<br>114<br>121<br>128<br>135<br>142<br>156<br>163<br>170                                   | 3<br>10<br>17<br>24<br>31<br>38<br>45<br>52<br>59<br>66<br>73<br>80<br>73<br>80<br>87<br>94<br>101   | 108<br>115<br>122<br>129<br>136<br>143<br>150<br>157<br>164<br>171<br>178<br>185<br>192<br>199<br>206 | 4<br>11<br>18<br>25<br>32<br>39<br>46<br>53<br>60<br>67<br>74<br>81<br>88<br>89<br>5<br>102<br>109<br>116<br>123<br>130<br>137<br>144<br>151<br>158<br>165<br>172<br>179<br>186<br>200<br>207<br>207                | 7<br>14<br>21<br>28<br>35<br>42<br>49<br>56<br>63<br>70<br>77<br>84<br>91<br>98<br>105<br>112<br>119<br>89<br>126<br>133<br>140<br>147<br>154<br>161<br>154<br>161<br>154<br>161<br>203<br>210<br>227<br>228<br>245<br>229<br>266<br>273<br>280 | 6<br>13<br>20<br>27<br>34<br>41<br>48<br>55<br>62<br>69<br>90<br>97<br>104<br>111<br>118<br>125<br>132<br>139<br>146<br>0<br>167<br>174   | <i>s</i><br>12<br>19<br>26<br>33<br>40<br>47<br>54<br>61<br>68<br>75<br>82<br>89<br>96<br>103<br>110<br>117<br>124<br>131<br>138<br>145<br>152<br>159<br>166<br>173<br>180<br>187<br>194<br>201<br>208   |
|   |  |   |   |  |   |   | Ta   | ble 7   | : Res  | ults f   | or Pr   | oblen  | ı 8   |   |  |   |   |   |   |  |
| 5<br>12<br>19<br>26<br>33<br>40<br>47<br>54<br>61<br>68<br>75<br>82<br>89<br>96<br>103<br>110<br>117<br>124<br>131<br>138<br>145<br>152<br>159<br>166<br>173<br>180<br>187<br>194<br>201<br>208 | 3<br>10<br>17<br>24<br>31<br>38<br>45<br>52<br>59<br>66<br>73<br>87<br>94<br>101<br>108<br>115<br>122<br>129<br>136<br>61<br>43<br>150<br>157<br>164<br>143<br>150<br>157<br>164<br>143<br>150<br>157<br>223<br>220<br>223<br>224<br>241<br>244<br>241<br>225<br>262<br>269<br>276 | 215<br>222<br>229<br>236<br>243<br>250<br>257<br>264<br>271<br>278<br>285<br>292<br>299<br>306  | 1<br>8<br>15<br>22<br>29<br>36<br>43<br>50<br>57<br>64<br>71<br>78<br>85<br>92<br>99<br>106<br>113<br>120<br>127<br>134<br>141<br>148<br>155<br>162<br>169<br>176<br>183<br>190<br>197<br>204<br>211<br>218<br>225<br>232<br>239<br>246<br>253<br>260<br>267<br>274<br>281<br>285<br>302<br>309 | 5<br>12<br>19<br>26<br>33<br>40<br>47<br>54<br>61<br>68<br>75<br>82<br>89<br>96<br>103<br>110<br>117<br>124<br>131<br>138<br>145<br>152<br>159<br>166<br>173<br>180<br>187<br>194<br>201<br>208        | 3<br>10<br>17<br>24<br>31<br>38<br>45<br>52<br>59<br>66<br>73<br>80<br>87<br>94<br>101<br>108<br>115<br>122<br>129<br>136<br>143<br>150<br>157<br>164<br>171<br>178<br>185<br>192<br>199<br>206<br>213<br>220<br>227<br>234<br>241<br>248<br>269<br>276 | 283<br>290<br>297<br>304  | 215<br>222<br>236<br>243<br>257<br>264<br>277<br>264<br>278<br>285<br>292<br>299<br>306  | 5<br>12<br>19<br>26<br>33<br>40<br>47<br>54<br>61<br>68<br>89<br>96<br>68<br>89<br>96<br>103<br>110<br>117<br>124<br>131<br>131<br>138<br>145<br>152<br>159<br>166<br>173<br>180<br>187<br>194<br>201<br>208  | 283<br>290<br>297<br>304   | 3<br>10<br>17<br>24<br>31<br>38<br>45<br>52<br>59<br>66<br>73<br>80<br>66<br>73<br>80<br>66<br>73<br>80<br>101<br>108<br>115<br>122<br>129<br>136<br>61<br>137<br>164<br>143<br>150<br>157<br>164<br>17<br>17<br>17<br>18<br>87<br>94<br>101<br>108<br>117<br>108<br>117<br>109<br>122<br>129<br>130<br>157<br>157<br>157<br>157<br>157<br>157<br>157<br>157 | 1<br>8<br>15<br>22<br>29<br>36<br>43<br>50<br>57<br>64<br>71<br>78<br>85<br>92<br>99<br>106<br>113<br>120<br>127<br>134<br>141<br>148<br>155<br>162<br>169<br>176<br>183<br>190<br>197<br>204<br>211<br>218<br>225<br>232<br>239<br>246<br>253<br>260<br>267<br>274<br>281<br>285<br>309<br>309<br>309<br>309<br>309<br>309<br>309<br>309 | 215<br>222<br>236<br>243<br>257<br>264<br>271<br>278<br>285<br>292<br>299<br>306   | 215<br>222<br>229<br>236<br>250<br>257<br>264<br>271<br>278<br>285<br>299<br>306  | 5<br>12<br>19<br>26<br>33<br>40<br>47<br>54<br>61<br>68<br>75<br>82<br>89<br>96<br>61<br>03<br>110<br>117<br>124<br>131<br>131<br>132<br>159<br>166<br>173<br>180<br>187<br>194<br>201<br>208 | 3<br>10<br>17<br>24<br>31<br>38<br>45<br>52<br>59<br>66<br>73<br>80<br>66<br>73<br>87<br>94<br>101<br>108<br>115<br>122<br>129<br>136<br>143<br>150<br>157<br>164<br>143<br>150<br>157<br>164<br>152<br>206<br>213<br>220<br>227<br>234<br>241<br>241<br>245<br>262<br>269<br>276<br>276 | 215<br>222<br>229<br>236<br>243<br>257<br>264<br>271<br>278<br>285<br>292<br>299<br>306               | 5<br>12<br>19<br>26<br>33<br>40<br>47<br>54<br>61<br>68<br>89<br>96<br>68<br>89<br>96<br>103<br>110<br>117<br>124<br>131<br>131<br>134<br>5152<br>159<br>166<br>60<br>187<br>73<br>1800<br>187<br>124<br>201<br>208 | 283<br>290<br>297<br>304  | 5<br>12<br>19<br>26<br>33<br>40<br>47<br>54<br>61<br>68<br>75<br>82<br>89<br>96<br>103<br>110<br>117<br>124<br>131<br>138<br>145<br>152<br>159<br>166<br>60<br>187<br>73<br>180<br>187<br>194<br>201<br>208 | 3<br>10<br>17<br>24<br>31<br>38<br>45<br>52<br>59<br>66<br>73<br>80<br>87<br>94<br>101<br>108<br>115<br>122<br>129<br>136<br>143<br>150<br>157<br>164<br>171<br>178<br>185<br>192<br>199<br>206<br>213<br>220<br>227<br>234<br>241<br>245<br>262<br>269<br>276 |

|                           |                           |                                 |  |   |   |  |  |   |   |   | , j  |  |   |   |  |  |   |   |   |  |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|--|---|---|--|--|---|---|---|--|--|---|---|--|--|---|---|---|--|
| 5<br>12<br>19<br>26<br>33 | 3<br>10<br>17<br>24<br>31 | 215<br>222<br>229<br>236<br>243 | 1<br>8<br>15<br>22<br>29<br>36<br>43<br>50 | 5<br>12<br>19<br>26<br>33<br>40<br>47<br>54<br>61<br>68<br>55<br>82 | 3<br>10<br>17<br>24<br>31<br>38<br>45<br>52<br>59<br>66<br>73<br>80<br>87<br>94<br>101<br>108<br>115<br>129<br>136<br>143<br>150<br>157<br>164<br>171 | 283<br>290<br>297<br>304<br>1<br>8<br>15<br>22<br>29<br>36<br>43<br>50<br>57<br>64<br>71<br>78<br>85<br>92<br>99<br>106<br>113<br>120<br>127<br>134<br>141<br>148<br>155<br>169<br>176 | 215<br>222<br>229<br>236<br>243<br>257<br>264<br>271<br>278<br>285<br>292<br>299<br>306<br>108<br>115<br>122<br>129<br>136<br>143<br>150<br>157<br>164<br>171<br>178 | 5<br>12<br>19<br>26<br>33<br>40<br>47<br>54<br>61<br>68<br>75<br>82<br>89<br>96<br>103<br>110<br>117<br>124<br>138<br>145<br>1529<br>166<br>173<br>1807<br>194<br>208 | 283<br>290<br>297<br>304<br>56<br>63<br>70<br>77<br>84<br>91<br>98<br>105<br>112<br>119<br>126<br>133<br>140<br>147<br>154<br>161<br>168<br>175<br>189<br>196<br>2010<br>217<br>224<br>231<br>245<br>252<br>259<br>266<br>273<br>49<br>42<br>35<br>28 | 3<br>10<br>17<br>24<br>31<br>38<br>45<br>59<br>66<br>73<br>80<br>87<br>94<br>108<br>155<br>129<br>136<br>143<br>150<br>164<br>171<br>178<br>192<br>199<br>200<br>227<br>234<br>248<br>255<br>269<br>276 | 1<br>8<br>15<br>22<br>29<br>36<br>43<br>57<br>64<br>17<br>85<br>92<br>99<br>106<br>113<br>1207<br>134<br>141<br>148<br>155<br>162<br>197<br>204<br>211<br>225<br>239<br>246<br>253<br>267<br>274<br>285<br>299<br>106<br>113<br>1207<br>134<br>141<br>148<br>155<br>209<br>206<br>207<br>207<br>207<br>208<br>209<br>206<br>207<br>207<br>207<br>207<br>207<br>207<br>207<br>207 | 215<br>229<br>236<br>243<br>257<br>264<br>271<br>278<br>285<br>299<br>306<br>1<br>8<br>15<br>22<br>299<br>36 | 215<br>222<br>229<br>236<br>243<br>257<br>264<br>271<br>278<br>285<br>292<br>299<br>306<br>178<br>185<br>192<br>199<br>206<br>171<br>164<br>150<br>143<br>136<br>129<br>115<br>108<br>101 | 5<br>12<br>19<br>26<br>33<br>40<br>47<br>54<br>61<br>68<br>89<br>96<br>61<br>03<br>110<br>117<br>124<br>138<br>145<br>159<br>166<br>173 | 3<br>10<br>17<br>24<br>31<br>38<br>45<br>59<br>67<br>38<br>87<br>94<br>101 | 215<br>222<br>229<br>236<br>243<br>257<br>264<br>271<br>278<br>285<br>292<br>299<br>306<br>1 | 5<br>12<br>19<br>26<br>33<br>40<br>47<br>54<br>61<br>68<br>75<br>82<br>89<br>96<br>103<br>110<br>117<br>124<br>138<br>145<br>1529<br>166<br>173<br>1807<br>194<br>208 | 283<br>2907<br>304<br>1<br>8<br>15<br>22<br>29<br>36<br>43<br>50<br>57<br>64<br>71<br>78<br>85<br>92<br>99<br>106 | 5<br>12<br>19<br>26<br>33<br>40<br>47<br>54<br>61<br>68<br>75<br>89<br>96<br>108<br>110<br>117<br>124<br>131<br>138 | 3<br>10<br>17<br>24<br>31<br>38<br>45<br>52<br>59<br>66<br>73<br>80<br>87<br>94<br>101<br>108<br>115<br>1229<br>136<br>143<br>1507<br>164<br>171 |

Table 8: Final Solution for Problem 8

| Table 0.        | Computational | Time   | n seconds |
|-----------------|---------------|--------|-----------|
| <i>I UNE</i> 7. | Նտութաատոս    | тине и | и местним |

| Problem | 1           | 2           | 3           | 4        |  |  |
|---------|-------------|-------------|-------------|----------|--|--|
| WSR     | 3.1106e+002 | 1.7795e+003 | 2.9514e+002 | 61.96353 |  |  |
| S.R     | 68.42439    | 6.6045e+002 | 43.3094     | 42.11038 |  |  |
| Problem | 5           | 6           | 7           | 8        |  |  |
| WSR     | 3.8956e+002 | 1.5733e+003 | 1.011e+002  | 53.36247 |  |  |
| S.R     | 53.197      | 58.015      | 79.17092    | 48.16189 |  |  |

#### CONCLUSION

In this paper we have considered a new method of reducing the space by forming independent sets using the compatibility matrix. This space reduction actually helps in reducing the complexity in solving the original problem and results in a gain in time. In this method we also obtain a set of redundant frequencies assigned to particular cells. This can be used in the event that there are small changes in the demand vector.

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