Improved Resource Allocation Model for Reducing Interference among Secondary Users in TV White Space for Broadband Services

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Abstract
In recent years, the Television White Space (TVWS) has attracted the interest of many researchers due to its propagation characteristics obtainable between 470MHz and 790MHz spectrum bands. The plenty of unused channels in the TV spectrum allows the secondary users (SUs) to use the channels for broadband services especially in rural areas. However, when the number of SUs increases in the TVWS wireless network the aggregate interference also increases. Aggregate interferences are the combined harmful interferences that can include both co-channel and adjacent interferences. The aggregate interference on the side of Primary Users (PUs) has been extensively scrutinized. Therefore, resource allocation (power and spectrum) is crucial when designing the TVWS network to avoid interferences from Secondary Users (SUs) to PUs and among SUs themselves. This paper proposes a model to improve the resource allocation for reducing the aggregate interface among SUs for broadband services in rural areas. The proposed model uses joint power and spectrum hybrid Firefly algorithm (FA), Genetic algorithm (GA), and Particle Swarm Optimization algorithm (PSO) which is considered the Co-channel interference (CCI) and Adjacent Channel Interference (ACI). The algorithm is integrated with the admission control algorithm so that; there is a possibility to remove some of the SUs in the TVWS network whenever the SINR threshold for SUs and PU are not met. We considered the infeasible system whereby all SUs and PU may not be supported simultaneously. Therefore, we proposed a joint spectrum and power allocation with an admission control algorithm whose better complexity and performance than the ones which have been proposed in the existing algorithms in the literature. The performance of the proposed algorithm is compared using the metrics such as sum throughput, PU SINR, algorithm running time and SU SINR less than threshold and the results show that the PSOFAGA with ELGR admission control algorithm has best performance compared to GA, PSO, FA, and FAGAPSO algorithms.

Keywords:
Admission control algorithm; Cognitive Radio Networks; Effective Link Gain Ratio Algorithm; TV Whitespace; Resource allocation

1. Introduction

Television White Space (TVWS) is the TV spectrum between 470MHz and 790MHz assigned for over the air TV channels that have been used as guard bands to mitigate interferences and that are not used by PUs at a particular area in a specified time. Dynamic Spectrum Access (DSA) is the mechanism of improving spectrum effectiveness through local spectrum sensing approach and self-establishment of wireless links midst of Cognitive radio networks (CRN). Cognitive Radio (CR) is the radio which detects automatically the usable channels in the wireless spectrum according to the change of its reception or transmission resources or parameters to permit more simultaneous wireless communications in a particular spectrum band. DSA with CRN allows Secondary Users (SUs) to use the unutilized spectrum as long as they do not cause any interferences to licensed users i.e. PUs.

TV frequencies have been one of the most promising frequencies for secondary sharing. The White Space signals can travel a long distance, penetrating human, natural obstacles, and can be available in most places, can also use existing towers and infrastructures being used to transmit other wireless signals [1]. TVWS has the clear technical benefit of broad coverage up to 30 km which means less radio equipment is needed per unit area than in the case of shorter-range devices, this makes TVWS specially fitted to rural backhaul applications [2].

The major issue in TVWS networks is interference control. Dynamic Spectrum Access (DSA), through the use of Cognitive Radio (CR), is currently being accepted as a way out to spectrum scarcity and spectrum underutilization, because DSA, together with CR, provides an efficient solution for spectrum sharing and management [3]. Resource allocation addresses the issues of interference to PUs and among SUs in TVWS networks so that TVWS can be efficiently utilized [3]. In a TVWS wireless network where there is a large number of secondary users, the optimization of power and spectrum allocation to SUs is very important to improve QoS. The main objective of resource allocation in cognitive access to TVWS is to efficiently allocate the available spectrum

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and power to SUs such that the interference limitations to PUs and SUs are met. Resource allocation addresses the issues of interference to PUs and among SUs in TVWS networks so that TVWS can be efficiently utilized [3].

Previous works under this area proposed the methods for finding acceptable power requirements for SUs so that there is no deleterious interference from such unlicensed ones to the primary system. These current works are either consider the co-channel (CH) or adjacent channel (AC) interferences constraints only while inventing the analytical methods:-The approaches consider only the interference constraints on one side of primary users and assume that the interference on SUs is negligible [3]. In the case of Co-channel Interference (CCI) the location of SU users is outside the TV footprint and transmitting on the matched channel used by TV broadcast systems [4]. Not only the CCI could affect the TV reception but also the Adjacent Channel Interference (ACI), thus even if the SUs transmitting on different broadcasting channels may cause deleterious interference to the nearby TV receivers. Other researchers worked on the methods and algorithm of resource allocation to control the power of the SUs i.e. [4] did the study on optimization of power limits for TVWS.

In this study, the problem of finding upper limits in which the aggregate interference (AI) by SUs does not transcend the exact limit was considered. The AI is compelled in such a way that the probability of harmful interference is under a pre-set threshold. The researchers factored the log-normal fading into the model and considered both CCI and ACI. The authors used the Wilkinson approximation to find the summation of log-normal variables in calculating sum interference. The objective of this work was to maximize the sum capacity by optimizing power limits for WSDs under a probability constraint on AI. The MATLAB *fmincon* function which uses an interior point algorithm was used in this model. The interior-point algorithm used is exact which makes inefficiency in computation and not suitable for resource allocation in a TVWS wireless network which is an NP-hard optimization problem. Also, this work does not explain how they can optimize the interferences which can be caused by improper spectrum allocation. This work also does not emphasize admission control.

The main contribution of this paper is to overcome the resource allocation-related issues, outlined in section II, by improving them using the hybrid FA, GA, and PSO algorithms with admission control. Admission control has been currently considered in several works to maximize the number of admitted users in wireless networks [5]. The centralized admission control algorithm called Effective Link Gain Ratio Removal algorithm (ELGRA) has low computational complexity than I-SMIRA, Effective Stepwise SU Removal with primary users' protection algorithm (ESRPA) is proposed in this work.

The proposed algorithm assumes that the communication is from WSD to the base station and does not include device-to-device communication. The algorithm considers both CCI and ACI interferences in GLDB based wireless TVWS network and includes the admission control algorithm so that some SUs can be removed in the network when the SU or PU SINR thresholds are not met. The admission control algorithm ensures all SUs meet the minimum required SINR threshold in the TVWS wireless network[6].

To the best of our knowledge, this hybrid PSOFAGA with ELGRA admission control algorithm has not been applied for joint power and spectrum allocation in GLDB based wireless TV white space network. FA has been chosen in this proposed work because the author in [7, 8] found that, FA performs better than other metaheuristic algorithms like genetic algorithms and particles swarm optimization. The simulation results of the proposed algorithm will result in sum throughput and SINR at PU and SUs improvement. Apart from improving maximizing sum throughput and SINR at SUs, our work also overcome the problem of computational complexity and performance of the previous admission control algorithms proposed by other researchers.

The rest of this paper is organized as follows. We have shown the related literature review in section II. Section III shows the resource allocation algorithm, admission control, system model, and problem formulation. Section IV shows the simulation setup. The performance evaluation and analysis of the proposed algorithm are discussed in section V. Finally, the paper is concluded in section VI.

2. Related Works

In this section, we will provide a brief overview of the most important works that have proposed resource allocation with admission control in TVWS wireless network design. In this work, we based on centralized control algorithms which can be divided into the following groups; Random search algorithm (RSA), optimal searching algorithm (OSA), sequential searching algorithm (SSA), link gain ratio based algorithm (LGRA), and interference constraint-aware stepwise maximum interference removal algorithm (I-SMIRA). However, LGRA outperforms the mentioned algorithm.

In [7], the authors proposed the firefly power control algorithm for a Geolocation database (GLDB) based wireless TVWS network that considered both constraints; SUs and PUs constraints. The researchers considered both interferences which are CCI and the ACI. This work aimed to protect PUs against harmful interference even if the high number of SUs are exposed in the TVWS network and also to improve the Signal to noise ratio (SINR) for SUs by designing a fast heuristic algorithm. In their performance analysis to show the cumulative distribution of SINR for SUs, they used three scenarios; first, they placed 100 SUs, second 500 SUs, and finally 1000 SUs. For all three scenarios, the power algorithm was used to allocate the transmit power to each SU. However, the spectrum allocation and admission control were not scrutinized in this work.

In [6], the authors proposed a joint power and spectrum hybrid FA, GA, and PSO algorithms for GLDB based wireless TVWS. Their algorithm considers the communication from WSD to the base station and ignored the device-to-device communication. This PSOFAGA algorithm considered only the adjacent channel interference and ignored the CCI. Also, the algorithm to TVWS network on this work considered only one cell, which means only one AP, one PU, and didn't incorporate fading. Researchers ignored the admission control algorithm which ensures all SUs in TVWS wireless network meet the acceptable minimum SINR threshold. Therefore it is important to take into account the admission control when optimizing resource allocation [9].

In [10], the authors proposed resource sharing with admission control for the D2D links scheme which comprises two stages to allow multiple links of D2D to access the TV spectrum. In the first stage, the algorithm allocates the spectrum to SUs, and finally, the power and admission control was done in the second stage. The authors in this work proposed the admission control with links removing whereby they used Single Removal Algorithm (SMIRA) which were outperformed other removal algorithms such as multiple removals. Despite its better results based on its performance compared to other removal algorithm but SMIRA has high computational complexity. However the work doesn't talk about the communication from WSD to the base station, they only concentrate on the side of D2D communication.

In[11], the authors proposed a joint power and centralized admission control algorithm for CRN called joint power and admission control (JPAC). The authors proposed two algorithms; the Effective stepwise SU Removal with Primary user's protection Algorithm (ES-RPA) and Effective Link Gain ratio removal Algorithm (ELGRA). The ELGRA outperforms the ES-RPA in terms of complexity with slightly low performance. In terms of complexity and performance, the two algorithms outperform all existing admission control algorithms i.e. Optimal Search Algorithm (OSA) and Interference constraints-aware Stepwise Maximum Interference Removal Algorithm (I-SMIRA). The overall complexity of ESRPA and ELGRA are $O(M_s^2)$ and $O(M_s \log M_s)$ respectively while the overall computational complexity of I-SMIRA, OSA, and LGRA are $O(M_s^3)$, $O(2^{M_s} M_s^2)$ and $O(M_s^2 \log M_s)$ respectively. However, this work concentrated on power and admission control only and leave aside the part of spectrum allocation.

3. Methodology

3.1 System Model, Problem formulation, Admission Control, and Resource (Power and Spectrum) Allocation Algorithms

The optimization of resource allocation (Power and spectrum) must be practiced in TVWS wireless network to improve the Quality of Services (QoS). [12] in their scenario discussion admitted that; the vacant channels are inadequate, it is tough to utilize the limited channel resources when there are numerous emerged D2D links in a cell, which normally cause interferences i.e. between themselves or to the incumbent service of TV receivers. The optimization of power and spectrum resources must be done to ensure that the secondary network is accessible by as many SUs as possible while making sure that the QoS requirements for SUs and interference constraints for PUs are met [6]. In our work, resource allocation refers to power and spectrum allocation.

3.2 System Model

Figure 1 below shows the network scenario assumed in this work. Assume S is the number of SUs and C is the number of channels. Let B be the potential channel allocation matrix and represented as $B = \{b_{s,c} // b_{s,c} \in \{0,1\}$. The dimension of B is SxC. If the channel C is allocated to the user S then $b_{s,c} = 1$ and $b_{s,c} = 0$ if the channel C is not allocated to the user S. Since both power and spectrum are to be optimized then, assume that $P = \{P_c^1, P_c^2, ...P_c^s ...P_c^S\}$ is the power allocation vector, where P_c^s is the transmit power of secondary user S on the channel C. We assumed that the uplink transmission in a TVWS wireless network includes both PUs and SUs, hence $M = M_P + M_S$, where by M_P and M_s are the primary and secondary users, $M = \{1,2,3,...,M\}$, $M_P = \{1,2,3,....,M_P)$ and $M_S = \{M_P + 1, M_P + 2,...., M_P + M_s\}$. This interference scenario diagram is adopted from [13].

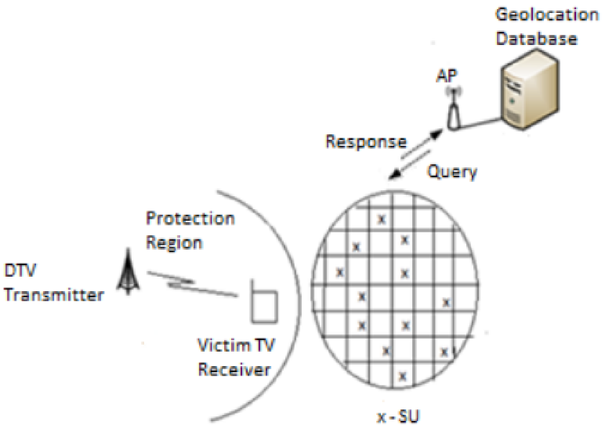

Figure 1: Interference Scenario [13]

It is assumed that the TV receiver is operating using a channel b at a frequency f_b. The aggregate interference scenario is shown below.

The single SU interference to the TV receiver which is adopted from [7] is shown in the equation 1:

$$I_{TVR,S} = \mu(b,c_s) P_s^{c_s} G_s^{SU \to PU} G_{SU} G_{PU}, \tag{1}$$

where the $P_s^{c_s}$ represent the SU s transmit power which operates on the channel c_s, the path loss from SU s to the victim TV receiver is denoted by $G_s^{SU \to PU}$, G_{PU} is the TV receiver antenna gain, G_{SU} is the secondary user antenna gain. Since we are considering both CCI and ACI hence we have to include CCI and ACI coefficients. $\mu(b,c_s)$ is the ACI coefficient. The formula of the ACI coefficient has shown in equation 2 and it is defined by [12].

$$\mu(b,c_s) = \begin{cases} 1 & b = c_s \\ \frac{\gamma(\Delta f)}{\gamma(0)} & b \neq c_s \end{cases} \tag{2}$$

where the term $\gamma(\Delta f)$ represents the minimum signal to noise ratio (SINR) with the offset frequency Δf at the receiver. Δf in equation (2) if the frequency offset between the two channels c and y is given by $\Delta f = | f_c$ f_y |, for $\Delta f = 0$ implies the CCI. Hence the total interference to the primary users if the ACI is modeled the same as CCI is given as shown in equation 3 below:

$$I_{TVR} = \sum_{c=1}^{M} I_s = \sum_{c=1}^{M} \mu(b,c_s) P_s^{c_s} G_s^{SU \to PU} G_{SU} G_{PU}, \tag{3}$$

SINR at the receiver can be given as:

$$\beta_P = \frac{P_{TV}}{I_{TVR} + \sigma_{TVR}^2} \geq \beta_{P0}, \tag{4}$$

where β_{P0} is the required minimum SINR at the PU, σ_{TVR}^2 is the noise power, and the received power from the TV transmitter at the TV receiver is denoted by P_{TV}.

Despite the above scenario which shows the interference from SUs to PUs, each SU will receive interference from the neighbor SU. Assuming the SUs use the same channel n, hence the interference at SU s from other SUs will be written as:

$$I_s = \sum_{\substack{r=1 \\ c_s = n, r \neq s}}^{M} I_{s,r} = \sum_{\substack{r=1 \\ c_s = n, r \neq s}}^{M} P_r^{c_r} G_r^{s} G_{SU}, \tag{5}$$

where the interference caused by SU s to SU r is denoted by $I_{s,r}$, G_{SU} is the antenna gain of SU, $P_r^{c_r}$ represent the SU r transmit power which operates on the channel c_r, G_r^{s} is the distance-based path loss from SU_r to SU_s.

Hence SINR at every secondary user is given by:

$$\beta_s = \frac{P^{AP} G_r^{s} G_{SU} G_{AP}}{I_s + \delta_s^2} \geq \beta_{So}, \tag{6}$$

where P^{AP} represent the Base Station (BS) transmit power, G_{AP} is the BS antenna gain and β_{So} is the minimum needed SINR at the secondary user.

3.3 Problem formulation

The goal of this work is to reduce the interference among SUs while maintaining the interference constraints to the PUs to not fall below the desired undesired threshold (D/U). Hence power and spectrum should be optimized and admission control should be included.

The aim is to find a power vector $P = \{P_c^1, P_c^2, P_c^3 ... P_c^s ... P_c^S\}$ and channel allocation matrix B that performs the maximization of summation of downlink throughput while guaranteeing the minimization of interference constraints violations at the SUs and PUs. Each SU has its power which adjusted between the range of $[p_{\min}, p_{\max}]$ and channel matrix $b_{s,c} \in \{0,1\}$

i.e. $b_{s,c} = 0$ or $b_{s,c} = 1$.

The optimization problem is adopted from [6] and is shown in equation (7) below:

$$P,B = \arg\max(V - c_n \sum_{i=1}^{N} \max[0, g_i^{\,n}]^2 - c_m[0, g_i^{\,m}])^2, (7)$$

subject to:

$$p_{\min} \subseteq p_i \subseteq p_{\max}$$

$$b_{s,c} \in \{0,1\}$$

From the above equation, the throughput summation of all SUs is denoted by V, interference threshold violation for PU is represented by $c_m[0, g_i^{\,m}]$ while $(c_n \sum_{i=1}^{N} \max[0, g_i^{\,n}]^2)$ represents the interference threshold violation for SUs. Where c_n and c_m are the penalty factors for SUs and PU interference threshold violations respectively.

Assume SINR vector is given by $\beta = [\beta_1, \beta_2, \ldots\ldots, \beta_M]^T$, hence β is feasible if the current power vector $p_{\min} \subseteq p_i \subseteq p_{\max}$ satisfies the SINR vector β for all users $i \in M$. Similarly in a given effective SINR vector $\theta = [\theta_1, \theta_2, \ldots., \theta_M]^T$ is feasible if its correlating SINR β is feasible. Furthermore, for the system to be feasible also if $\hat{\beta}$ or $\hat{\theta}$ is feasible, where $\hat{\beta} = [\hat{\beta}_1, \hat{\beta}_2, \ldots\ldots, \hat{\beta}_M]^T$ and $\hat{\theta} = [\hat{\theta}_1, \hat{\theta}_2, \ldots\ldots, \hat{\theta}_M]^T$.

For the given power vector P, hence the set of SUs which achieve their desired target SINR is given as:

$$S(P) = \{i \in M_s \mid \beta_i(P) \supseteq \hat{\beta}_i\}, \qquad (8)$$

Therefore the SINR allocation problem is given by:

$$\max imize \mid A_S(\theta) \mid, \qquad (9)$$

$$\theta \in T_o$$

Subject to $\theta \in F_o$.

Where F_o is the user's feasible effective SINR vector space?

For the case of an infeasible minimum/target SINR vector β doesn't grant of how to set up a categorized list of candidate removal for secondary users to obtain the maximal number of admitted supported users. Therefore, the following is the simpler mechanism for the feasibility checking of a specified effective SINR vector θ.

Let $\theta = [\theta_{M_p}; \theta_{M_s}]$ be an identified effective SINR vector. Where θ_{M_p} and θ_{M_s} are the values of effective SINR for PU, and SU respectively. Then, let θ_{A_s} indicates the effective SINRs for the admitted SUs. Therefore, θ if and only if the following conditions are met.

$$f_p(\theta_{A_s}) \leq K_p\left(\theta_{M_p}\right), \qquad (10)$$

$$f_s(\theta_{A_s}) \leq K_s\left(\theta_{M_p}\right), \qquad (11)$$

Where;

$$f_p(\theta_{A_s}) = \sum_{j \in A_s} \left(\frac{h_j^{(p)}}{h_j^{s}}\theta_j\right) x \frac{1}{1 - \sum j \in A_s^{\theta_j}} \qquad (12)$$

$$f_s(\theta_{A_s}) = \min_{i \in A_s} \left(\frac{Ph_i^{(s)}}{\theta_i}\right) x \left(\sum_{j \in A_s} \frac{h_j^{(p)}}{h_j^{(s)}}\theta_j\right) - \alpha\left(1 - \sum_{j \in A_s} \theta_j\right) \qquad (13)$$

where;

$$\alpha = \left(1 - \sum_{j \in M_p} \theta_j\right) x \frac{1}{\sum j \in M_p \left(\frac{h_j^{(p)}}{h_j^{(s)}}\right)\theta_j}$$

$$K_p\left(\theta_{M_p}\right)=\frac{\underset{i\in M_p}{\min}\left(\frac{P_i h_i^{(p)}}{\theta_i}\right)x\left(1-\Sigma\, j\in M_p^{\theta_j}\right)-\sigma_{TVR}^2}{\underset{i\in M_p}{\min}\left(\frac{P_i h_i^{(p)}}{\theta_i}\right)x\,\Sigma\, j\in M_p\left(\frac{h_j^{(s)}}{h_j^{(p)}}\theta_j\right)+\delta_s^2} \tag{14}$$

$$K_s\left(\theta_{M_p}\right)=\frac{\left(\Sigma\, j\in M_p^{\theta_s}\right)-1}{\Sigma\, j\in M_p\left(\frac{h_j^{(s)}}{h_j^{(p)}}\theta_j\right)}\delta_s^2-\sigma_{TVR}^2 \tag{15}$$

In equations (12) and (13), $(h_i^{(p)}/h_i^{(s)})\hat{\theta}_i$ indicates the effective link gain ratio (ELGR) for user i and $(h_j^{(p)}/h_j^{(s)})\hat{\theta}_j$ indicates the ELGR for user j. δ_s^2 and σ_{TVR}^2 are the noise power at secondary and primary BTS, $h_i^{(s)}$ and $h_i^{(p)}$ are the uplink gain user i and secondary and primary BTS respectively. The conditions from equations (10) and (11) enable the feasibility check of a given effective SINR vector θ with a minimal complexity through the following conditions[5].

Condition 1 (Primary users protection):

If equation (10) holds, PUs are guaranteed to be protected against existing admitted SUs. Hence, the interference caused by admitted SUs does not affect PUs performance and cause outage of any PUs.

Condition 2 (Supporting the admitted SUs):

If equation (11) holds, all SUs are guaranteed support with their allocated SINRs. As long as the above two conditions hold, hence the feasibility of an effective SINR vector θ is also guaranteed, i.e. all PUs are guided against the existence of admitted secondary users and all SUs are supported with their given SINRs.

Now; the admission control problem can be given by;

$$\underset{\theta\in T_\alpha}{\max}\left|A_s(\theta)\right| \tag{16}$$

Subject to (10),(11).

Hence, a subset of secondary users $A_s \subset M_s$ is admitted and allotted with their target SINRs in such a way that the given corresponding SINR vector is feasible and the admitted number of SUs is maximized. Once the A_s is obtained in equation (16), then the corresponding power vector and spectrum matrix can be computed.

3.4 Firefly Algorithm, Genetic Algorithm, Particle Swarm Algorithm, and Joint Power and Spectrum Resource Allocation PSOFAGA with Admission Control Algorithms

FA, GA, PSO, and the proposed joint spectrum and power allocation optimization using PSOFAGA with admission control algorithm are presented in this section.

3.4.1 Firefly Algorithm

Yang [14] introduced the FA which is a stochastic, metaheuristic, and bio-inspired algorithm for solving the hardest optimization and NP-hard problems. The brighter male firefly flashes attract the female fireflies [15]. The attractiveness is directly proportional to the brightness and the longer the distance they are apart the lower the attractiveness. The firefly will move randomly if there is no neighbor brighter firefly [15]. The flash intensity is usually inversely proportional to distance, that’s means as the distance increases the flash intensity decreases as per this formula: $I=\frac{1}{r^2}$. This phenomenon of flash intensity being reduced as the increase of square distance can be linked with the optimization of an objective function.

In an optimized problem, the possible solution is represented by each firefly. Two issues are considered in designing FA; the flash intensity variation and attractiveness formulation. The following equation shows the variation of flash intensity $I(r)$

$$I(r)=I_o\ell^{-\gamma r^2}, \tag{17}$$

where I_o represents the source flash intensity and γ is the fixed flash absorption coefficient. The fireflies attractiveness β is directly proportional to their flash intensity $I(r)$ and it can be represented by the following equation:

$$\beta=\beta_o\ell^{-\gamma r^2}, \tag{18}$$

where β is the flash intensity of the fireflies, r is the separation distance between two fireflies, and β_o is the attractiveness at $r = 0$.

If two fireflies x_i and y_j are separated by distance r_{ij}, the lesser bright fireflies will be forced to move in the direction of the brighter firefly according to the following equation below:

$$x_i^{t+1} = x_i^t + \beta \ell^{-\gamma r_{ij}^2} (x_j^t - x_i^t) + \alpha_t \in_i^t, \tag{19}$$

where $\in_i^t$ denotes a vector random number with Gaussian distribution and α is the parameter randomization. In equation (19), the first and second terms denote attractiveness and randomization respectively. The distance r_{ij} is calculated by the following equation:

$$r_{ij} = \sqrt{\sum_{k=1}^{k=n} (x_{ik} - x_{jk})^2}, \tag{20}$$

where n presents the problem dimensionality. FA has been used for spectrum allocation [16] and power allocation in CRNs [7].

In [7, 16] FA performs better than other metaheuristic algorithms like GA and PSO. For our proposed work each firefly comprises of spectrum allocation matrix and power vector. Each firefly in this joint power and spectrum allocation denotes a possible solution to the problem of finding resource allocation to all SUs in the TVWS wireless network. The best firefly is discovered at every iteration and the firefly movement is done according to the flash intensity and attractiveness of the firefly. After a predetermined number of iterations, the best firefly is chosen as the solution to the power and spectrum allocation problem.

3.4.2 Genetic Algorithm

GA is a metaheuristic algorithm inspired by evolutionary biology which is used to solve search and combinational optimization problems which would be hard or take a long time to solve by using brute force methods[17]. An optimization problem of each candidate solution is represented by a string of genes called a chromosome. GA starts with a random choice of a variety of chromosomes which serves as the initial population[18]. Then each chromosome in the generation (population) is calculated by the fitness function to examine how well it fixes the problem. The exchange of information amongst each other of chromosomes will be done haphazardly. This process of exchanging information is called a crossover. The fitter a chromosome is, the more the chance of being selected. New offsprings are created by two parents in the crossover process. Then the new offspring are mutated similar to the evolutionary biological structure. The next generation of parents is formed by the percentage of the best chromosomes. The GA has the characteristics of not being stuck or trapped in a local optimum (maximum) because of the mutation of offspring.

In [19] GA is used to solve a power problem in Cognitive Radio Networks (CRN). Also, GA was applied for spectrum allocation in CRN in [20-22]. In our proposed work, the candidate solution of a joint spectrum and power allocation to all SUs having CRs in the TVWS wireless network are represented by each chromosome. SUs are initially randomly allocated channels and power. The best chromosome is improved perpetually over several iterations through the crossover and mutation process. The value of power and spectrum allocations to SUs are exchanged by two randomly chosen power vectors and channel allocation matrix done by cross-over process. After a settled number of iterations, the optimal solution to the problem of calculating an optimal power and spectrum allocation to SUs in CRN for minimization of sum power and interferences in the TVWS network will be represented by the best chromosome.

3.4.3 Particle Swarm Optimization Algorithm

PSO is an evolutionary metaheuristic algorithm that was first introduced by James Kennedy and Russell Eberhart [23, 24]. PSO imitates the social habits of a bird's flock migration trying to get to an unspecified destination. The optimum solution is found based on population. Each solution in PSO is a bird in the flock. Bird is referred to as a particle. The particles that existed are repetitively improved in PSO. When they move in the direction of the destination, the birds/particles modify their social behavior [25]. The bird's flocks communicate as they fly together. When they communicate together in a specific direction, the other birds determine the bird that is in the best position. Each bird from its position uses its velocity to reach the best bird's location. PSO combines both global and local search. Local search means that the birds grasp their own experience while the global search, the birds learn from the other bird's experiences around them.

PSO starts by initializing set of a random particles with random solutions to the optimization problem, then the particle fitness is evaluated. All over the process, every particle i observes three parameters which are: particle current position (X_i), best particle position reached (P_i), and the particle flying velocity (V_i). Also, the best particle P_{best} is obtained at each iteration. And if the best particle P_{best} is better than the g_{best} at each iteration then the global best particle P_g and the related value of an objective function g_{best} is also updated. At each iteration, every particle flies in the direction of the current best position P_i and the best particle P_g at a determined velocity. The following equation number (12) is used for every particle to update its present velocity V_i.

$$NewV_i = \omega X currentV_i + c_1 X rand() X (P_i - X_i) + c_2 X Rand() (P_g - X_i) \tag{21}$$
,

The updated position for the particle when using new velocity is now given by the following equation below:

$$NewPositionX_i = currentpositionX_i + NewV_i \tag{22}$$

$$V_{\min} \supseteq V_i \supseteq -V_{\max}$$

whereby in the above equation. (21) , c_1 and c_2 are the two positive constants, normally ($c_1 = c_2 = 2$), rand and Rand are the two random functions, ω is an inertia weight as proposed by Shi Y and Eberhart in [25] which plays the function of balancing local and global search. $V_{\min}$ and $V_{\max}$ are the particle's minimum and maximum velocities respectively.

PSO is used to optimize power in [26] and spectrum allocation in [27-29]. In our proposed algorithm in this paper has the objective of maximizing SINR for all secondary users (SUs). Several particles have been taken in this proposed algorithm. The possible solution to the problem of obtaining an optimal spectrum and power allotment to all SUs is represented by each particle position (X_i). The power is randomly assigned to all SUs at the beginning of the optimization process. If there is an improvement at every iteration, the best power vector for every particle and global best power vector are updated. At a determined velocity, the particle (X_i) will move in the direction of the best particle position (P_i) and the global best particle (P_g) at each iteration. P_g will be chosen as an optimal solution to the power assignment problem after a predefined number of iterations. Every particle will include a channel assignment matrix and power vector in the case of the joint spectrum and power allotment.

3.4.4 Admission Control Algorithm

Admission control is a vital feature used in wireless networks for the optimization of the radio resource usage to maintain the QoS of the existing users. Admission control is done when the load in TVWS wireless network is high, that's means when the number of SUs requesting a link is too large. Admission control is used to maximize the number of admitted users and reduce interference [5].

3.4.5 Joint Spectrum and power Allocation optimization using Hybrid PSOFAGA Algorithm

When many SUs scramble for the channels in a TVWS wireless network may cause interference within themselves or to the PUs. According to [30] reducing interference can maximize the network throughput. Therefore, proper joint spectrum and power allocation with admission control are very important in TVWS networks. Due to its characteristics of faster convergency and multi-modality, the heuristic firefly algorithm can be hybridized with other algorithms [15]. The proposed joint spectrum and power allocation optimization using a hybrid PSOFAGA algorithm are presented in this sub-section.

The csimulation steps which shows how the algorithm function is shown in figure 2 below. Steps on which the algorithm functions are shown in algorithm 1. PSO is first used to optimize the resource allocation in step 1 of algorithm 1. The reason for starting with PSO is that the FA final solution depends on the status of the initial solution. In the proposed algorithm each particle of PSO will consist of a channel allocation matrix and the power vector. The velocity computation and position update in step 1.3.4 will be separately done for the power allocation vector and channel allocation matrix. The velocity computation and position update are shown in the equation (21) and (22) respectively.

Proceeding with step 2, the initial solution of PSO created in step 1 will be the starting point of FA. The solutions developed in PSO particles at PSO termination in step 1 will initiate all fireflies as shown in algorithm 1. In step 3, after the fitness ranking of the fireflies, the two best fireflies are crossed over to create the four new offspring. Then the generated four offsprings are ranked as per their fitness. If the fitness of the best current firefly measured by the optimization problem (objective function) in equation (7) is better (higher) than the one of the best offspring then it will be replaced by that of the best offspring. Instead of firefly to move according to equation (19), their movement will associate the local search in direction to local personal best and the global search in the direction to the global best. This is essential because it will prevent PSO from the local optimum trapping. The new movement of firefly will move according to equation (23) below and some of the PSO operators such as g_{best}, p_{best}, c_1 and c_2 are used in our proposed algorithm.

$$x_i^{t+1} = x_i^{t} + c_1 \ell^{-\gamma r_{ij}^2} (p_i - x_i^{t}) + c_2 \ell^{-\gamma r_{ij}^2} (p_g - x_i^{t}) + \alpha_t \in_t^{i}, (23)$$

3.4.6 Joint Spectrum and power Allocation optimization using Hybrid PSOFAGA with Admission Control Algorithm

This subsection illustrates the joint spectrum and power allocation optimization using hybrid PSOFAGA with an admission control algorithm to reduce interference among SUs and to PU to maximize throughput and SINR for all SUs in the TVWS network. In our work, we propose an Effective Link Gain ratio Removal Algorithm (ELGRA) which has lower complexity and performance compared to other existing centralized admission control algorithms including ESRPA as mentioned in [5]. The joint spectrum and power allocation using PSOFAGA are integrated with ELGRA to maximize SINR and throughput for SUs in the network. Considering the effective link gain ratio (ELGR) of the user i as $\left(h_i^{(p)}/h_i^{(s)}\right)\theta_i$. As it is shown from equation (12) and (13) that, the values of $f_s(A_s)$ and $f_p(A_s)$ are related directly to the values of ELGR of admitted SUs.

Therefore,SU having higher value of ELGR affects more the other users and hence, it should be given less opportunity to access the TVWS network. At each iteration, the ELGRA algorithm instead of removing the user which has removal minimimal feasibility constraints for PUs or feasibility constraints for SUs($f_p(A_s)$ or $f_s(A_s)$) respectively, we can just remove the user whose maximal effective link gain ratio (ELGR) to reduce the computational complexity of the algorithm. Algorithm 2 below shows the illustration of the proposed joint power and spectrum allocation using hybrid PSOFAGA with the ELGR algorithm.

Algorithm 1: Joint Spectrum and power Allocation optimization using PSOFAGA Algorithm.

```
Step 1:
    1.1. Initialization of the number of particles, $c_1$, $c_2$, $w$, $v_{\min}$, $v_{\max}$.
    1.2. For each particle
        • Power vector with random power values that are within the allowed range is initialized.
        • Initialize channel allocation matrix, with one channel assigned to each SU.
        End
    1.3. Do
    1.3.1. For every particle
        • Calculate fitness value.
        • If fitness value is better than the best fitness value $(p_i)$ in history set the current value as the new $p_i$.
        End
    1.3.2. Select the particle with the best fitness value of all the particles as the $p_{best}$.
    1.3.3. If current $p_{best}$ with its related best position $x_{best}$ is better than the $g_{best}$ then set the current $p_{best}$ as $g_{best}$.
    1.3.4. For every particle
        • Compute the velocity of a particle as per equation (19)
        • Update position of a particle for both channel matrix and power vector as per equation (20)
        • Look over the power vector to see whether all values of power in the power vector are within range or not. If any values are out of range then generate random values that are within range to replace them.
        • If there is an allocation of more than one channel to SU, then select randomly a single channel for each SU.
            End
        While maximum iterations have not been reached.
    1.4. $g_{best}$ set as a final solution of PSO.
```

Step 2:

2.1. Initialize the control parameters of the algorithm α , β , γ firefly number NP and the maximum number of iterations $t_{\max}$.

2.2. Set dimension of firefly D (domain space).

2.3. Set the initial position of fireflies as those of solution for the problem in equation (7) generated by PSO in step 1.

Step 3:

3.1. Using equation (7) compute the fitness value of the firefly and rank the firefly according to their fitness values.

3.2. Calculate the current best solution.

3.3. Apply crossover mechanism separately for the power vector and channel matrix on the top to best solutions.

3.4. Out of the four offspring formulated through crossover, choose the best offspring and use it as the current best solution of Firefly Algorithm (FA) if its fitness is better than that of the current best.

Step 4:

4.1. For each firefly, move it to the better solution according to the equation (7).

4.2. Check firefly y_i to see if all the power values in the power vector are within range. If any values are out of range then generate random values that are within range to replace them.

Step 5:

5.1. If it reaches the predefined maximum number of iterations, then the power vector and channel allocation matrix of the current best solution mentioned in step 3 is derived and stop the progress else go to step 3 and continue.

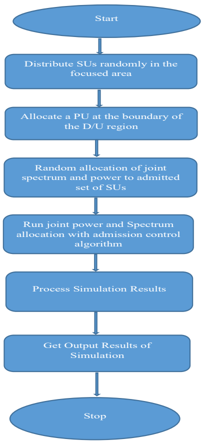

Figure 2: Simulation Steps

Algorithm 2: The proposed Joint Spectrum and power Allocation optimization using PSOFAGA with Admission Control Algorithm

Step 1: Initialization:

1.1. Initialize all parameters as per algorithm 1 i.e. c_1 , c_2 , w , $v_{\min}$, $v_{\max}$.

1.2. Assuming all SUs are allocated with their required minimum/target-SINRs (i.e., $A_s \leftarrow M_s$ and $\theta_i = \hat{\theta}_i$ for all $i \in M_s$ or $\theta_{M_s} \leftarrow \hat{\theta}_{M_s}$ equivalently.

1.3. Assume all PUs is allocated with their target/required minimum SINRs (i.e., $\theta_i = \hat{\theta}_i$ for all $i \in M_p$ or $\theta_{M_p} \leftarrow \hat{\theta}_{M_p}$ equivalently.

1.4. Compute $K_s\left(\theta_{M_p}\right) and \quad K_p\left(\theta_{M_p}\right)$ as per equations (14) and (15).

Step 2: Admission Control

2.1. If $|A_s| > 0$ and equations (10) and (11) do not hold then, do the following or otherwise go to step 3.

2.2. $A_s \leftarrow A_s \setminus \left\{\overset{*}{i}\right\}$, where $\overset{*}{i} = Argmax_{i \in A_s}\left\{\frac{h_i^{(p)}}{h_i^{(s)}}\hat{\theta}_i\right\}$.

Step 3: Spectrum and Power Allocation

3.1. Allocate joint power and spectrum as per algorithm 1.

4. Results

Simulation results for the joint spectrum and power allocation optimization using PSOFAGA with Admission Control Algorithm are presented in this section. The proposed PSOFAGA with admission control algorithm is compared with PSO, FA, GA, and PSOFAGA algorithms [6]. The following metrics were used to compare the performance of the algorithm: sum throughput, SU signal to noise ratio (SINR), PU SINR, objective function values, and running time of the algorithm. Considered $P_{\max}$ $20dBm$ for mobile WSDs only.

4.1 Simulation Setup

Matlab R2020a is used in simulation because it is rich in built-in functions. The simulation parameters are listed in Table 1. Secondary users $S = 500$ are dispersed over an area of 1km^2. The network diagram generated by Matlab is shown in figure 3. Initial power and spectrum allocation are done randomly. SUs are initially randomly dispersed across 16 channels. The path loss was modeled by the free-space path loss model shown in equation (24) below:

$$PL(d) = 20\log(d) + 20\log(f) - 147.55 \qquad (24)$$

where f is the operation frequency, the distance measured in meters is denoted by d . The FA parameters used are as follows: $\beta_0 = 1$, $\alpha = 30$, $\gamma = 10$, firefly numbers $NP = 50$. The Genetic algorithm parameters are as follows: mutation rate $= 0.8$, chromosome $= 50$, and selection rate $= 0.5$ .PSO used the following parameters,

inertia weight $w_{\min} = 2$ and $w_{\max} = 4$, number of particles $= 50$, cognitive parameters $c_2 = 2$, and social parameters $c_1 = 2$. The number of iterations used for PSO, FA,

and GA is 50. For PSOFAGA, the number of iterations of FA and PSO used is 25 which is half of the pure FA and PSO.

Table 1: Simulation Parameters

Parameter	Value	Description
$B.W$	$8MHz$	TV channel bandwidth
f_b	$474MHz$	Center frequency of DTT signal
P_{TV}	$-70.6dBm$	Received power from TV transmitter at the TV receiver
σ_{TVR}	$-102dBm$	Noise power
η_o	$23dB$	SINR threshold required at PU
β_o	$7dB$	SINR threshold needed at SU
P^{AP}	$36dBm(4W)$	Access point (AP)/base station (BS) transmit power
$P_{\max}$	$30dBm$	Maximum SU transmit power
$\mu(b,c_s)$	$(0,-28dBm)$	ACI coefficient
G_{PU}	$10dB$	TV receiver (PU) antenna gain
G_{SU}	$10dB$	SU antenna gain
G_{AP}	$10dB$	AP antenna gain

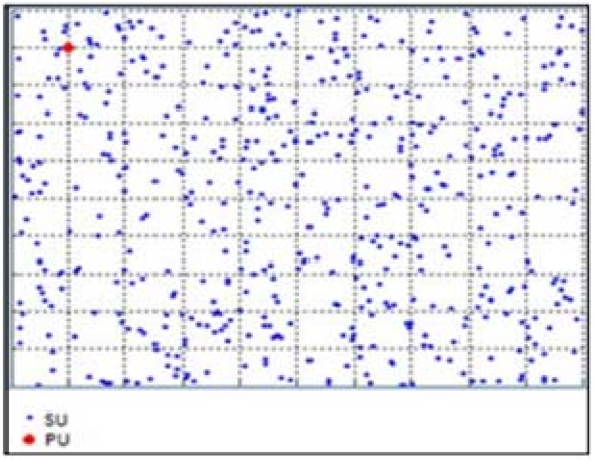

Figure 3: Network Diagram

4.2 Simulation results

Simulation results for the joint spectrum and power allocation optimization using PSOFAGA with Admission Control Algorithm are presented in this section. The proposed PSOFAGA with admission control algorithm is compared with PSO, FA, GA, and PSOFAGA algorithms [6]. The following metrics were used to compare the performance of the algorithm: sum throughput, SU signal to noise ratio (SINR), PU SINR, objective function values, and running time of the algorithm. Considered $P_{\max}$ $20dBm$ for mobile WSDs only.

4.2.1 Sum throughput

For all values of S, the output results indicate that the PSOFAGA with the ELGR admission control algorithm attains the highest sum throughput than all compared algorithms. This is because the SU with a higher value of effective link gain ratio (ELGR) is given less opportunity to access the TVWS network hence reduction of interference and maximization of the network sum throughput. Shannon channel capacity theorem reveals the fact that when you reduce interference you also improve the throughput. Table 2 shows the performance of PSOFAGA with ELGRA admission control algorithm with the other existing algorithms in TVWS wireless networks for the variety of users S with C equal to 10.

Table 2: Sum Throughput comparison for S=150,300 and 500

$P_{\max}$ = 20dBm						
Algorithm	Sum Throughput (Gb/s)			Improvement Percentage		
	S=150	S=300	S=500	S=150	S=300	S=500
PSO	16	18	18	107.5%	162.2%	135%
FA	23	26	26	44.34%	66.04%	62.7%
GA	17	18	18	95.29%	162.2%	135%
PSOFAGA	29	43.3	36	14.48%	9%	17.5%
PSOFAGA with ELGRA	33.2	47.2	42.3			

4.2.2 SU Signal to Noise Ratio (SINR)

As S increases in the TVWS wireless network, the sum of interference power to SUs is also increasing hence SU SINR decreases. PSOFAGA with ELGR admission algorithm achieves the biggest average SU SINR for all S values. This is because PSOFAGA with ELGR admission control algorithm assigns both spectrum and power and ELGR algorithm uses equation 13 to support all SUs with their given SINRs.

Table 3: Average SU SINR comparison for S=150,300 and 500

$P_{\max}$ = 20dBm			
Algorithm	Average SU SINR (dB)		
	S=150	S=300	S=500
PSO	17.04	15.03	14.04
FA	17.26	15.46	14.39
GA	17.03	15.02	14.01
PSOFAGA	22.3	21.2	20.1
PSOFAGA with ELGRA	26.20	25.15	23.12

4.2.3 PU Signal to Noise Ratio (SINR)

As S increases, the signal-to-noise ratio (SINR) for PU also decreases due to the increase of interference caused by the large number of secondary users in the TVWS wireless network. Compared with the other algorithms, PSOFAGA with ELGR admission control attains the biggest PU SINR for all S values. Because PSOFAGA with ELGR admission control algorithm assigns both spectrum and power and ELGR uses equation 16 to protect PU against admitted SUs. Therefore, the interference caused by admitted SUs does not affect PU performance and cause an outage of any PU.

Table 4: PU SINR comparison for S=500

$P_{\max}$=20dBm	
Algorithm	Average SU SINR (dB)
PSO	56.271
FA	56.012
GA	49.0101
PSOFAGA	57.313
PSOFAGA with ELGRA	57.512

4.2.4 Percentage of SUs less than SU SINR Threshold

The SINR threshold in the TVWS network is 13dB. Compared with the other algorithms, PSOFAGA with ELGR admission control algorithm performs better and attains the smallest percentage of SU SINR lower than the threshold for the values of the number of users S. PSOFAGA with ELGR admission control performs better since; it allocates joint spectrum and power and restricts/ removes the SUs with the highest effective link gain ratio, therefore, reducing interference in the TVWS network.

Table 5: Percentage of SU less than SU SINR threshold comparison for S=150, 300, and 500

$P_{\max}$ = 20dBm						
Algorithm	Percentage of SU less than SU SINR threshold			Improvement of Percentage		
	S=150	S=300	S=500	S=150	S=300	S=500
PSO	5.8	8.7	9	62%	67.8%	44.4%
FA	3.7	4.8	5.4	40.5%	41.7%	7.4%
GA	3.8	6.8	8	42.1%	58.8%	37.5%
PSOFAGA	2.5	3.2	5.33	12%	12.5%	6.1%
PSOFAGA with ELGRA	2.2	2.8	5			

4.2.5 Running Time

Matlab timeit() function was used to compare the running time of various algorithms. The outcome shows that PSOFAGA with ELGR admission control algorithm has a higher running time than PSO, and GA but lower than FA running time. The running time for all algorithms increases as the number of secondary users (SUs) increases. In PSOFAGA with ELGR admission algorithm, a total of 100 iterations were used, since PSO and FA both use 50 iterations. The admission control part makes the PSOFAGA with ELGRA to be higher than the normal PSOFAGA joint power and spectrum algorithm.

Table 6: Running time comparison for S=150, 300, and 500

P_{max} = 20dBm						
Algorithm	Percentage of SU less than SU SINR threshold			Improvement of Percentage		
	S=150	S=300	S=500	S=150	S=300	S=500
PSO	5.8	8.7	9	62%	67.8%	44.4%
FA	3.7	4.8	5.4	40.5%	41.7%	7.4%
GA	3.8	6.8	8	42.1%	58.8%	37.5%
PSOFAGA	2.5	3.2	5.33	12%	12.5%	6.1%
PSOFAGA with ELGRA	2.2	2.8	5			

5. Conclusion and Recommendations

The efficiency of hybrid PSOFAGA with ELGR admission control algorithm for joint spectrum and power assignment in TVWS wireless network is evaluated using MATLAB2020a and compared with the algorithms such as PSO, FA, GA, and FAGAPSO. The performance of the proposed algorithm is compared using the metrics such as sum throughput, PU SINR, algorithm running time, and SU SINR threshold. The results show that the PSOFAGA with ELGR admission control algorithm has the best performance in PU SINR, SU SINR threshold, sum throughput compared to other algorithms while in terms of running time its faster than GA and slower than FA and PSOFAGA.

This work can be further extended for better results. Firstly, the developed model in this research does not involve fading, hence it can be further extended by including fading. Secondly, the joint power and spectrum assignment using hybrid PSOFAGA with ELGR admission control algorithm uses a TVWS wireless network whose only one cell that means it uses only one base station (BS), therefore, the extension of this work can be the addition of more than one cell in TVWS wireless network. Thirdly, the simulation environment we used in our work use only FDMA as a MAC protocol, therefore, other MAC protocols such as CSMA/CA or CSMA/CD, TDMA, and CDMA. Also, the admission control method used in this research uses an effective link gain ratio to remove users, therefore, ESRPA can also be integrated with joint power and spectrum PSOFAGA algorithm and the results can be compared with our proposed work.

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