

**Coverage Estimation of GSM System Considering Spectral  
Efficiency, Interference and Cell-Sectoring**

By

**Jannatul Hossain Khan**

**ID: 071-19-631**

**Afsana Nadia Nova**

**ID: 071-19-636**

**Syeda Ireen Sultana**

**ID: 071-19-642**

**A thesis report presented in partial fulfillment of the requirements  
for the degree of Bachelor of Science in Electronics and  
Telecommunication Engineering**

Supervised By

**Dr. Subrata Kumer Aditya**

Professor & Chairman

**Department of Applied Physics, Electronics & Communication Engineering**

**University of Dhaka**



**DAFFODIL INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY**

**DHAKA, BANGLADESH**

**FEBRUARY 2011**

## APPROVAL

This thesis titled “Coverage Estimation of GSM System Considering Spectral Efficiency, Interference and Cell-Sectoring” submitted by Afsana Nadia Nova, Jannatul Hossain Khan and Syeda Ireen Sultana to the Department of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering, Daffodil International University, has been accepted as satisfactory for the partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Bachelor of Science in Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering and approved as to its style and contents. The presentation was held on December 27, 2010.

### Board of Examiners

**Dr. Md. Golam Mowla Chowdhury**

Professor and Head

Department of Electronics & Telecommunication Engineering  
Daffodil International University

---

(Chairman)

**Dr. Subrata Kumar Aditya**

Professor and Chairman

Department of Applied Physics, Electronics  
& Communication Engineering  
University of Dhaka

---

(External)

**A.K.M Fazlul Haque**

Assistant Professor

Department of Electronics & Telecommunication Engineering  
Daffodil International University

---

(Internal)

**Md. Mirza Golam Rashed**

Assistant Professor

Department of Electronics & Telecommunication Engineering  
Daffodil International University

---

(Internal)

## DECLARATION

We hereby declare that, this thesis has been done by us under the supervision of Dr. Subrata Kumer Aditya, Professor & chairman, Department of Applied Physics, Electronics & Communication Engineering, University of Dhaka and the co-supervision of Md. Shamsul Arefin, Lecturer, Department of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering, Daffodil International University. We also declare that neither this thesis nor any part of this thesis has been submitted elsewhere for award of any degree or diploma.

### Supervised By:

---

**Dr. Subrata Kumer Aditya**  
**Professor & Chairman**

Department of Applied Physics, Electronics & Communication Engineering  
University of Dhaka

### Co-Supervised By:

---

**Md. Shamsul Arefin**  
**Lecturer**

Department of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering,  
Faculty of Science & Information Technology,  
Daffodil International University.

### Submitted By:

---

**Afsana Nadia Nova**  
ID: 071-19-636

---

**Jannatul Hossain Khan**  
ID: 071-19-631

---

**Syeda Ireen Sultana**  
ID: 071-19-642

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

All thanks to almighty Allah for letting us complete this thesis successfully in time.

We would like to express our gratefulness to our supervisor Dr. Subrata Kumer Aditya, Professor, Department of Applied Physics, Electronics & Communication Engineering, University of Dhaka and our co-supervisor Md. Shamsul Arefin, Lecturer, Department of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering, Daffodil International University for their excellent guidance and valuable comments on simulations and background studies.

We would also like to express our heartiest gratitude to Dr. Md. Golam Mowla Chowdhury, Professor and Head, Department of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering, Daffodil International University, Md. Mirza Golam Rashed, Asst. Professor, Department of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering, Daffodil International University, A.K.M Fazlul Haque, Asst. Professor, Department of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering, Daffodil International University for their support.

We would like to thank Mohashin Uddin Pathan, Lecturer, Department of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering, Daffodil International University, Poppy Siddiqua, Lecturer, Department of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering, Daffodil International University for all the technical support, knowledge and shared experience.

Finally, we must acknowledge with due respect the constant support and patients of our parents.

## **ABSTRACT**

In this work, the capacity and coverage area of GSM system have been studied. Channel capacity estimation considering spectral efficiency, system capacity estimation considering interference, cell sectoring, cell splitting, microcell zone concept and power control also been studied. MATLAB 6.5.0.180913a Release 13 has been used for simulation and performance evaluation of capacity and coverage in GSM system.

A simple Microsoft Excel tool for GSM Link budget calculation has been formulated. Path loss for uplink and downlink has been calculated using Link Calculator software considering 3-sector antenna. Different areas such as urban, sub-urban and rural areas have been considered for this purpose. RF coverage planning has been also done to improve the capacity.

Effect of MS antenna height, BS antenna height and effect of output power of BS have been studied for different areas. Analysis reveals that coverage area improves significantly considering spectral efficiency, interference and cell sectoring.

As an example, Google Earth 4.3 and Radio Works software have been used to estimate the coverage area for a particular area. A 3D coverage map has been formulated using this result.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>CONTENTS</b>	<b>PAGE</b>
Board of examiners.....	i
Declaration.....	ii
Acknowledgement.....	iv
Abstract.....	v
Error! Reference source not found.:	
<b>Introduction.....</b>	<b>1-3</b>
1.1 General Introduction .....	1
1.2. Previous Work.....	2
1.3. Objective of the present work .....	3
1.6 Organization of this report.....	3
<b>CHAPTER 2:</b>	
<b>Architecture of GSM.....</b>	<b>4-9</b>
2.1 Two main standards .....	4
2.2 Specifications and Characteristics for GSM.....	4
2.3 Basic Architecture .....	5
2.4 GSM Architecture .....	5
2.4.1 Functions of a Mobile Station.....	5
2.4.2 Base Station System (BSS).....	6
2.4.3 Mobile Switching Center (MSC).....	6
2.4.3.1 The MSC connects to the following elements.....	7
2.4.4 Operation and Maintenance Subsystem (OMS).....	7
2.5 GSM Network Areas.....	8
2.5.1 Cell.....	8
2.5.2 Location Area.....	8
2.5.3 MSC/VLR Service Area.....	9
2.5.4 PLMN Service Area.....	9
<b>CHAPTER 3:</b>	
<b>System Capacity Estimation Considering Interference.....</b>	<b>10-14</b>

3.1 Interference and System Capacity.....	10
3.1.1 Types of the Interference.....	10
3.1.2 Co-channel Interference.....	10
3.1.3 Adjacent channel interference.....	13
3.3 Minimization of Adjacent Channel Interference.....	14

**CHAPTER 4:**

**Channel Capacity Estimation Considering Spectral Efficiency...15-21**

4.1 Spectral Efficiency.....	15
4.1.1 Simulation By using a Erlang B calculator.....	15
4.2 Capacity.....	16
4.3 Frequency Reuse.....	17
4.4 Formation of clusters.....	18
4.5 The Reuse of Frequency planning.....	20

**CHAPTER 5:**

**Capacity Improvement.....22-35**

5.1 Introduction.....	22
5.2 Cell Sectoring.....	22
5.2.1 Directional Antennas .....	22
5.2.2 Types of Sectoring.....	23
5.2.3 Capacity Increasing.....	26
5.2.4 Advantages of Sectoring.....	27
5.2.5 Problems.....	28
5.3 Cell Splitting.....	28
5.3.1 How to Perform Cell Splitting.....	29
5.3.2 Transmission Power.....	30
5.3.3 Practical considerations for cell splitting.....	31
5.3.4 Advantages.....	31
5.3.5 Disadvantages.....	32
5.4 Micro cells.....	32
5.4.1 Microcell Zone Concept:.....	32

5.4.2 Advantages.....	34
5.4.3 Disadvantage.....	34
5.5 Power Control.....	34
5.5.1 Open loop power control.....	35
5.5.2 Fast closed-loop power control.....	35
<b>CHAPTER 6:</b>	
<b>Radio Network Planning.....</b>	<b>36-56</b>
6.1 Introduction.....	36
6.2 Radio Network Planning Process.....	36
6.2.1 Radio Cell Propagation.....	37
6.2.2 Radio Wave Propagation Mechanisms.....	38
6.3 The Link (or Power) Budget .....	39
6.3.1 Important Components of Link Budget Calculations.....	40
6.3.2 Uplink Calculations.....	41
6.3.3 Downlink Calculations.....	42
6.3.4 Link Budget Test Example .....	43
6.3.5 Output and Effect of Link Budget Calculations.....	45
6.4 Path Loss and Cell Range Calculation Using a Link Calculator....	46
6.5 Coverage Estimation .....	47
6.6 Base Station Power.....	51
6.7 Path Loss Prediction Models.....	53
<b>CHAPTER 7:</b>	
<b>Conclusion.....</b>	<b>57-58</b>
7.1 Conclusion.....	57
7.2 Future Works.....	58
<b>References.....</b>	<b>59-60</b>



## LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 2.1: Pictorial Representation of the Uplink and Downlink Frequencies.....	4
Figure 2.2: Main Components of GSM Network.....	5
Figure 2.3: GSM Architecture.....	5
Figure 2.4: Base Station System.....	6
Figure 2.5: OAM.....	7
Figure 2.6: GSM network areas .....	8
Figure 2.7: Location Area.....	8
Figure 2.8: MSC/VLR Service Area.....	9
Figure 3.1: co-channel reuse ratio Vs cluster size.....	12
Figure 3.2: Illustration of the first tier of co-channel cells for a cluster size of $N=7$ ...13	13
Figure 4.1: spectrum efficiency calculation.....	16
Figure 4.2: Capacity calculation.....	17
Figure 4.3: Frequency reuse.....	17
Figure 4.4: Frequency reuse and cluster formation.....	18
Figure 4.5: cell radius Vs Reuse distance.....	19
Figure 4.6: Cluster radius.....	19
Figure 4.7: Channels Assignment.....	21
Figure 5.1: Dipole in front of a ground plane.....	23
Figure 5.2: $120^\circ$ beam pattern, i.e., relative power (at a given distance) vs. angle.....	23
Figure 5.3: Worst case uplink S/I for $N=4$ and $120^\circ$ sectoring.....	24
Figure 5.4: Worst case downlink S/I for $N=4$ and $120^\circ$ sectoring.....	24
Figure 5.5: co-channel interference ratio Vs cluster size.....	25
Figure 5.6: Uplink interference with 60-degree sectoring.....	25
Figure 5.7: Illustration of how 120 degree sectoring reduces interference from co-channel cells .....	27
Figure 5.8: Original cell distribution.....	28
Figure 5.9: Cell Distribution following the cell splitting .....	29
Figure 5.10: Illustration of cell splitting.....	29
Figure 5.11: Base Stations Erlange capacity.....	31
Figure 5.12: Micro cells.....	32
Figure: 5.13: The microcell concept.....	33

Figure: 5.14: Define D1, D2, R1 and R2 for a microcell architecture with N=7.....	34
Figure 6.1: The radio network planning process.....	36
Figure 6.2: Macro-, micro- and pico-cells .....	38
Figure 6.3: Example of Power budget uplink calculation.....	41
Figure 6.4: Example of Power budget downlink calculation.....	42
Figure 6.5: path loss calculation, Coverage area Vs path loss.....	44
Figure: 6.6: coverage probability on cell edge Vs Argument (Inverse of Q).....	45
Figure 6.7: output power of base station as a Function of distance for Urban, Sub- Urban & Rural Area.....	52
Figure 6.8: Output power of BS versus distance for Urban Area.....	53
Figure 6.9: Path Loss as a Function of distance for Urban, Sub-Urban & Open Area.....	55
Figure6.10: Path Loss versus distance for Urban Area .....	55

## LIST OF TABLES

### CHAPTER 2:

Table 2.1: GSM Frequency Bands.....	4
Table 2.2: Basic air interface parameters of GSM.....	4

### CHAPTER 3:

Table 3.1: Co-channel Reuse Ratio for Some Values of N.....	11
---	----