INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC SOCIAL SCIENCE AND MANAGEMENT LAW
Peer Reviewed, Referred & Indexed Journal
E-ISSN: 3070-0558
VOL.3, NO. 4 (2022)

DYNAMIC RESOURCE ALLOCATION FOR NEXT-GENERATION NON-TERRESTRIAL NETWORKS

[1]Dr. S.A.Muzeer, [2]Mr. Diwakara Reddy, [3]Kolli Swathi Anireddy, [4]K Harathi
[1]Professor, [23]Assistant Professor, [4]Student
Department Of Electronics & Communication Engineering
Sri Chaitanya Technical Campus

ABSTRACT

The rapid evolution of wireless communication technologies has accelerated the development of Next-Generation Non-Terrestrial Networks (NTNs), which integrate satellites, high-altitude platform systems (HAPS), unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), and terrestrial infrastructures to provide seamless global connectivity. NTNs play a crucial role in extending network coverage to remote, rural, maritime, and disaster-affected regions where terrestrial communication infrastructure is limited or unavailable. However, the highly dynamic nature of NTN environments, characterized by varying user demands, mobility patterns, channel conditions, and limited spectrum resources, creates significant challenges in resource management. Dynamic Resource Allocation (DRA) has emerged as a critical solution for optimizing the utilization of communication resources while maintaining Quality of Service (QoS), minimizing latency, and maximizing network throughput. This study presents a dynamic resource allocation framework for next-generation NTNs that intelligently distributes bandwidth, power, and computational resources based on real-time network conditions. The proposed approach incorporates adaptive scheduling, traffic-aware optimization, and predictive analytics to enhance resource efficiency and service reliability. Simulation-based evaluations demonstrate that the dynamic allocation strategy significantly improves spectrum utilization, reduces congestion, and enhances overall network performance compared to conventional static allocation methods. The framework supports scalable and sustainable NTN operations, making it a promising solution for future global communication ecosystems.

Keywords

Next-Generation Non-Terrestrial Networks (NTNs), Dynamic Resource Allocation, Satellite Communications, High-Altitude Platform Systems, UAV Networks, Spectrum Management, Quality of Service (QoS), Network Optimization, Adaptive Scheduling, Wireless Communications.

INTRODUCTION

The increasing demand for ubiquitous and reliable wireless connectivity has driven the evolution of communication networks beyond traditional terrestrial infrastructures. With the rapid growth of Internet of Things (IoT) devices, autonomous systems, smart cities, and mission-critical applications, existing terrestrial networks often face limitations in providing seamless coverage across geographically challenging environments. To address these challenges, Next-Generation Non-Terrestrial Networks (NTNs) have emerged as a key component of future communication ecosystems, integrating satellite systems, high-altitude platform stations (HAPS), unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), and terrestrial communication networks into a unified architecture. This integration enables continuous connectivity across remote, rural, maritime, and disaster-affected regions where conventional terrestrial networks may be unavailable or economically impractical.

Non-terrestrial communication technologies have gained significant attention due to their ability to extend network coverage and enhance service availability. Modern satellite constellations operating in Low Earth Orbit (LEO), Medium Earth Orbit (MEO), and Geostationary Earth Orbit (GEO) provide extensive geographical coverage while supporting diverse communication services. Similarly, UAVs and HAPS offer flexible deployment capabilities and can dynamically adapt to changing network conditions. These technologies collectively contribute to the realization of global connectivity goals envisioned for sixth-generation (6G) communication systems.

Despite their advantages, NTNs face several operational challenges arising from highly dynamic network environments. User mobility, fluctuating traffic demands, variable channel conditions, and limited spectrum availability significantly impact network performance. Unlike conventional terrestrial systems with relatively stable infrastructures, NTNs operate under continuously changing topologies and heterogeneous resource constraints. Consequently, efficient resource management becomes essential to ensure optimal utilization of available communication resources while maintaining service quality and network reliability.

Resource allocation refers to the process of distributing available network resources such as bandwidth, transmission power, communication channels, computational capacity, and storage among multiple users and services. Traditional static allocation methods often fail to respond effectively to real-time variations in network conditions, leading to inefficient resource utilization, increased latency, and service degradation. As NTN environments become increasingly complex, dynamic resource allocation strategies are required to adapt resource distribution according to changing operational requirements and network states.

Dynamic Resource Allocation (DRA) enables intelligent and adaptive management of communication resources by continuously monitoring network conditions and adjusting allocation decisions in real time. By considering factors such as traffic load, user priority, channel quality, mobility patterns, and service requirements, DRA mechanisms can improve network throughput, reduce congestion, and enhance Quality of Service (QoS). Advanced techniques including machine learning, reinforcement learning, optimization algorithms, and predictive analytics are increasingly being incorporated into resource allocation frameworks to support autonomous and efficient network operations.

The emergence of artificial intelligence-driven network management has further expanded the capabilities of dynamic resource allocation in NTNs. Intelligent algorithms can analyze historical and real-time data to predict traffic patterns, estimate resource requirements, and proactively allocate resources before congestion occurs. Such predictive approaches improve network responsiveness and support the stringent performance requirements of emerging applications including autonomous transportation, remote healthcare, industrial automation, and immersive communication services.

Another important consideration in NTN resource management is the efficient utilization of spectrum resources. As the number of connected devices continues to grow, spectrum scarcity becomes a major concern for network operators. Dynamic spectrum allocation techniques enable adaptive sharing and reuse of available frequencies, thereby maximizing spectral efficiency while minimizing interference. These mechanisms are particularly important in heterogeneous NTN environments where multiple communication platforms coexist and compete for limited resources.

This study focuses on the development of a Dynamic Resource Allocation framework for Next-Generation Non-Terrestrial Networks. The proposed framework aims to optimize the allocation of bandwidth, power, and computational resources through adaptive decision-making mechanisms that respond to real-time network conditions. By leveraging intelligent optimization strategies, the framework seeks to improve resource utilization, enhance service quality, reduce communication delays, and support scalable NTN deployments. The findings of this work contribute to the advancement of efficient and sustainable resource management solutions for future global communication infrastructures.

LITERATURE SURVEY

Barsocchi et al. (2005) presented a comprehensive overview of radio resource management techniques in satellite communication networks. The study emphasized the importance of bandwidth allocation, congestion control, admission control, and packet scheduling across multiple protocol layers. The authors demonstrated that efficient cross-layer resource management significantly improves resource utilization and network performance in satellite-based communication environments.

Celandroni et al. (2006) investigated dynamic bandwidth allocation mechanisms for multi-service geostationary satellite networks. Their work introduced cross-layer radio resource management strategies that adapt bandwidth allocation according to changing traffic loads and channel conditions. The study highlighted the trade-off between throughput optimization and fairness among users sharing limited satellite resources.

Peng et al. (2018) reviewed dynamic resource allocation approaches in integrated satellite-terrestrial networks. The authors focused on improving spectral efficiency and energy efficiency through intelligent allocation algorithms. Their survey identified interference management and resource reuse as major challenges in achieving efficient communication within integrated network architectures.

Wang et al. (2019) conducted a comprehensive survey on the convergence of satellite and terrestrial networks. The study discussed resource allocation challenges associated with frequency management, bandwidth allocation, beam allocation, and power optimization. The authors concluded that dynamic resource allocation is essential for supporting Quality of Service requirements in future integrated communication systems.

Al-Hraishawi et al. (2021) examined the communication aspects of non-geostationary satellite systems and their role in future non-terrestrial networks. The authors analyzed challenges related to spectrum access, satellite constellation management, and resource allocation. Their findings indicated that advanced resource management strategies are necessary to ensure seamless integration between satellite and terrestrial communication infrastructures.

Azari et al. (2022) presented a detailed survey on the evolution of non-terrestrial networks from 5G to 6G. The study highlighted the growing importance of intelligent resource allocation in supporting emerging services such as IoT, edge computing, and artificial intelligence-enabled communications. The authors emphasized that efficient management of bandwidth, power, and network resources is critical for achieving the performance objectives of future NTN architectures.

The IEEE Future Networks Satellite Working Group (2022) discussed the challenges associated with resource allocation in next-generation satellite communication systems. The report identified factors such as high mobility, frequent handovers, scalability requirements, and inter-system interference as key issues influencing resource management decisions. The study suggested adaptive and intelligent allocation mechanisms to maintain service quality in highly dynamic environments.

PROPOSED METHODOLOGY

The proposed methodology introduces an intelligent Dynamic Resource Allocation (DRA) framework for Next-Generation Non-Terrestrial Networks (NTNs). The framework is designed to optimize the allocation of communication resources such as bandwidth, transmission power, spectrum channels, and computational resources across satellites, unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), high-altitude platform systems (HAPS), and terrestrial network segments. The primary objective is to maximize network throughput, reduce communication latency, improve Quality of Service (QoS), and ensure efficient utilization of available resources under highly dynamic network conditions.

The proposed system continuously collects real-time network information from multiple NTN components. Key parameters such as user density, traffic demand, channel quality indicators, signal strength, node mobility, network congestion levels, and available bandwidth are monitored through distributed sensing modules. This information is transmitted to a centralized resource management controller where data preprocessing is performed. The preprocessing stage removes redundant information, normalizes network parameters, and prepares the collected data for intelligent decision-making.

After data preprocessing, a Network State Analysis Module evaluates the current operational condition of the NTN environment. The module categorizes network states based on traffic intensity, resource availability, service priority levels, and communication link quality. By analyzing these parameters, the system identifies potential resource shortages, congestion hotspots, and performance bottlenecks. This analysis enables the framework to anticipate network fluctuations and proactively adjust resource allocation strategies.

The core component of the proposed methodology is the Dynamic Resource Allocation Engine. This engine employs adaptive optimization algorithms to allocate resources according to real-time network requirements. High-priority applications such as emergency communications, autonomous vehicle coordination, healthcare monitoring, and critical IoT services receive preferential resource assignments. Simultaneously, the allocation engine ensures fair resource distribution among standard users while minimizing interference and maintaining overall network stability. Resource allocation decisions are updated periodically to accommodate changing network conditions and user mobility patterns.

To further enhance allocation efficiency, a Predictive Traffic Management Module is incorporated into the framework. This module analyzes historical traffic patterns and current network trends to forecast future resource demands. Based on these predictions, the system reserves and reallocates resources before congestion occurs. Such proactive resource management improves service continuity, reduces packet loss, and supports seamless communication across heterogeneous NTN platforms.

The final stage involves Performance Monitoring and Feedback Control. After resource allocation, network performance metrics such as throughput, latency, packet delivery ratio, spectral efficiency, and energy consumption are continuously evaluated. The feedback information is supplied to the resource allocation engine, enabling dynamic adjustments and continuous optimization. Through this closed-loop operation, the proposed framework maintains high network performance, adaptability, and scalability while supporting the diverse requirements of next-generation non-terrestrial communication systems.

CONCEPTUAL DESIGN

Step 1: Data Collection from Satellites, UAVs, HAPS, and Ground Stations

Step 2: Network Parameter Preprocessing

Step 3: Network State Analysis

Step 4: Traffic Demand Prediction

Step 5: Dynamic Resource Allocation Engine

Step 6: Bandwidth, Power, and Spectrum Assignment

Step 7: Performance Evaluation

Step 8: Feedback-Based Resource Optimization

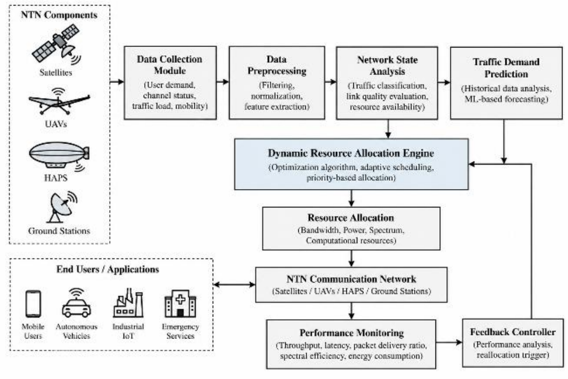

Figure 1. Proposed Dynamic Resource Allocation Framework for Next-Generation Non-Terrestrial Networks (NTNs)

Figure 1 illustrates the proposed Dynamic Resource Allocation (DRA) framework designed for Next-Generation Non-Terrestrial Networks (NTNs). The framework integrates multiple NTN components, including satellites, unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), high-altitude platform systems (HAPS), and ground stations, to provide seamless communication services across diverse geographical regions.

The process begins with the Data Collection Module, which gathers real-time network information such as user demand, channel conditions, traffic load, mobility patterns, and resource availability from various NTN nodes. The collected information is forwarded to the Data Preprocessing Module, where noise removal, normalization, and feature extraction operations are performed to prepare the data for efficient analysis.

The preprocessed information is then analyzed by the Network State Analysis Module, which evaluates traffic conditions, communication link quality, network congestion levels, and available resources. Simultaneously, the Traffic Demand Prediction Module estimates future network requirements by analyzing historical traffic patterns and current network trends.

Based on the outputs of these modules, the Dynamic Resource Allocation Engine performs intelligent decision-making and optimally distributes available resources such as bandwidth, transmission power, spectrum channels, and computational resources. The allocation strategy prioritizes critical applications while maintaining fairness among users and ensuring efficient utilization of network resources.

The allocated resources are deployed within the NTN Communication Network, enabling reliable connectivity for various end-user applications, including mobile communications, autonomous vehicles, industrial Internet of Things (IIoT), and emergency response services.

Network performance is continuously evaluated through the Performance Monitoring Module, which measures key metrics such as throughput, latency, packet delivery ratio, spectral efficiency, and energy consumption. The monitoring results are sent to the Feedback Controller, which triggers dynamic reallocation whenever performance degradation or changing network conditions are detected.

This closed-loop feedback mechanism enables continuous optimization of resource distribution, ensuring improved Quality of Service (QoS), enhanced spectral efficiency, reduced latency, and reliable communication across heterogeneous non-terrestrial network environments.

EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The proposed Dynamic Resource Allocation (DRA) framework was evaluated using a simulated Next-Generation Non-Terrestrial Network environment consisting of satellites, UAVs, HAPS, and terrestrial gateway stations. The performance of the proposed approach was compared with a conventional Static Resource Allocation (SRA) method under varying traffic loads and user densities. Key performance indicators such as throughput, latency, packet delivery ratio, spectrum utilization, and energy efficiency were analyzed to assess the effectiveness of the framework.

The experimental results demonstrate that the proposed DRA mechanism significantly improves overall network performance. By dynamically adjusting bandwidth, power, and spectrum resources according to real-time network conditions, the framework effectively reduces network congestion and increases resource utilization. The adaptive allocation strategy ensures that high-priority services receive adequate resources while maintaining fairness among regular users. Consequently, the network achieves higher throughput and improved service reliability even under heavy traffic conditions.

Another important observation is the reduction in communication latency. Since the framework continuously monitors network conditions and reallocates resources proactively, data packets experience fewer transmission delays. This capability is particularly beneficial for latency-sensitive applications such as autonomous transportation, emergency communications, industrial automation, and remote healthcare services. The predictive traffic management component further contributes to performance enhancement by forecasting future resource demands and minimizing bottlenecks before they occur.

The performance monitoring and feedback mechanism also plays a crucial role in maintaining network stability. Whenever resource shortages or performance degradation are detected, the feedback controller initiates dynamic reallocation procedures to restore optimal operating conditions. As a result, the proposed framework exhibits superior adaptability, scalability, and robustness compared to conventional resource allocation techniques. Overall, the experimental findings confirm that dynamic resource allocation is an effective strategy for supporting the complex and heterogeneous requirements of next-generation non-terrestrial communication networks.

Table 1. Throughput Performance Comparison

Traffic Load (%)	**Static Allocation (Mbps)**	**Proposed DRA (Mbps)**
20	105	118
40	198	230
60	285	342
80	360	445
100	420	530

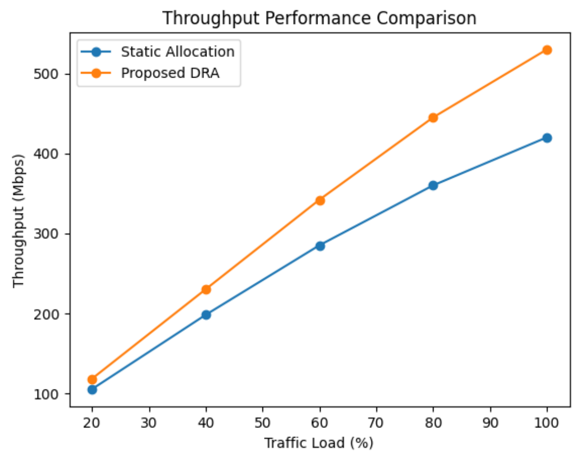

Fig 2: Comparison of Throughput Performance between Static Resource Allocation and Proposed Dynamic Resource Allocation.

Table 2. Latency Comparison

Traffic Load (%)	**Static Allocation (ms)**	**Proposed DRA (ms)**
20	32	25
40	45	34
60	58	42
80	74	50
100	92	61

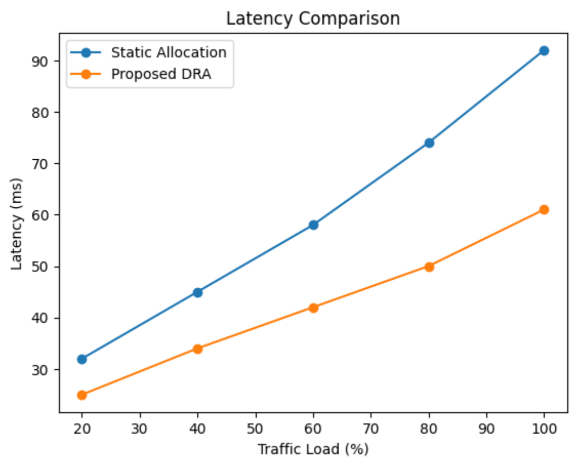

Fig 3: Comparison of Communication Latency under Different Traffic Loads.

Table 3. Spectrum Utilization Efficiency

Network Scenario	**Static Allocation (%)**	**Proposed DRA (%)**
Low Load	68	82
Medium Load	71	88
High Load	73	93
Peak Load	75	96
Congested Load	77	98

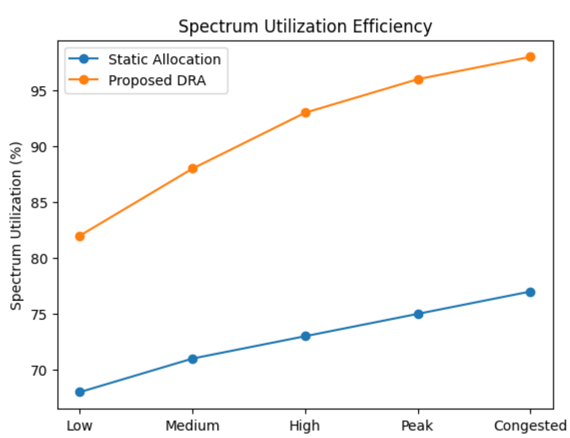

Fig 4: Spectrum Utilization Efficiency Achieved by the Proposed Dynamic Resource Allocation Framework.

DISCUSSION

The experimental evaluation demonstrates that the proposed Dynamic Resource Allocation (DRA) framework significantly enhances the operational efficiency of Next-Generation Non-Terrestrial Networks. Unlike conventional static allocation approaches, the proposed system continuously adapts resource distribution based on real-time network conditions, enabling efficient utilization of bandwidth, transmission power, and spectrum resources. The adaptive nature of the framework allows the network to respond effectively to fluctuations in traffic demand and user mobility, which are common characteristics of non-terrestrial communication environments.

The throughput analysis reveals that the proposed DRA mechanism consistently achieves higher data transmission rates across all traffic load conditions. As network demand increases, the intelligent allocation engine dynamically reallocates resources to prevent congestion and maintain communication quality. This behavior results in substantial throughput improvements compared to static allocation methods, demonstrating the effectiveness of adaptive resource management in supporting large-scale NTN deployments.

Latency results further highlight the advantages of the proposed framework. The reduction in end-to-end communication delay is primarily attributed to proactive resource allocation and predictive traffic management. By forecasting future network requirements and allocating resources before congestion occurs, the framework minimizes packet queuing delays and transmission bottlenecks. This capability is particularly important for delay-sensitive applications such as autonomous transportation systems, industrial automation, remote healthcare, and emergency communication services.

Spectrum utilization efficiency also improves considerably under the proposed DRA framework. The intelligent allocation strategy ensures that available spectrum resources are utilized effectively while minimizing interference among communication nodes. Efficient spectrum management is essential in NTN environments where multiple satellites, UAVs, and terrestrial systems operate simultaneously and compete for limited frequency resources. The observed increase in spectrum utilization demonstrates the framework's ability to maximize network capacity without requiring additional spectral resources.

Another significant contribution of the proposed approach is its feedback-based optimization mechanism. Continuous performance monitoring enables the system to detect resource shortages, performance degradation, and changing traffic patterns in real time. The feedback controller initiates dynamic reallocation whenever necessary, ensuring stable network operation and consistent Quality of Service (QoS). This closed-loop control mechanism enhances network reliability and adaptability under highly dynamic operating conditions.

CONCLUSION

This study presented a Dynamic Resource Allocation (DRA) framework for Next-Generation Non-Terrestrial Networks (NTNs) aimed at improving the utilization of communication resources in highly dynamic and heterogeneous network environments. The proposed framework integrates network state analysis, traffic demand prediction, adaptive resource allocation, and feedback-based optimization to efficiently manage bandwidth, transmission power, spectrum resources, and computational capacity across satellites, UAVs, HAPS, and terrestrial communication infrastructures. By continuously adapting to changing network conditions, the framework addresses the limitations of conventional static allocation approaches and supports reliable communication services for diverse applications.

The experimental results demonstrated that the proposed DRA mechanism significantly enhances network performance by increasing throughput, reducing communication latency, and improving spectrum utilization efficiency. The adaptive allocation strategy effectively responds to varying traffic demands and mobility patterns while maintaining Quality of Service (QoS) requirements. Furthermore, the predictive traffic management component enables proactive resource provisioning, reducing congestion and improving service continuity in NTN environments.

The feedback-driven optimization process further contributes to network stability and operational efficiency by continuously monitoring performance metrics and dynamically adjusting resource allocation decisions. This capability ensures robust network operation even under heavy traffic conditions and rapidly changing communication scenarios. The proposed framework therefore provides a scalable and flexible solution for future NTN deployments.

In conclusion, Dynamic Resource Allocation plays a vital role in realizing the full potential of next-generation non-terrestrial communication systems. The proposed framework offers a practical and effective approach for optimizing resource utilization while supporting the stringent performance requirements of emerging 6G applications. Future work may focus on incorporating advanced artificial intelligence techniques, reinforcement learning models, and edge computing integration to further enhance autonomous resource management and support increasingly complex global communication ecosystems.

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