

Generalized Frequency Re-use Ratio for Uniform and Non-uniform Cell Range in Telecommunication Network Design.

Abstract

Frequency Reuse (FR) is an efficient interference management technique, which offers significant capacity enhancement and improves cell edge coverage with low complexity of implementation. This is done by assigning different frequencies to adjacent cells to avoid interference or cross talk. Random assignment of different frequencies to these adjacent cells is quite herculean and inefficient. This paper proposed a formula for assigning frequencies for uniform ($N: N = 1:1$) cell range and extends it to non-uniform ($N: N$ for $N > 1$) cell range in cell planning. Also, we obtain a functional relationship between the apothem and the circumradius as well as the inner and outer angle and deduce that hexagonal tessellation offers the best radius and angular relationship in GSM cell planning.

Keywords: *Frequency re-use, interference, hexagons, regular polygons, overlap difference, re-use ratio.*

1. Introduction

In mobile telecommunication networks, the term 'cells' may artificially be represented by geometrical shapes such as hexagons or concentric circles-disks. This is due to the fact that GSM antenna have been design to radiate signals in sectors [1]. A collection of these antenna's make up a circle. But circles don't tile so the choice of covering is essential to remove excessive overlaps. Hexagon is conveniently chosen because it is the only tessellable regular polygon that is closest to being circular with the widest area ([2]). The circular shapes are themselves inconvenient as they have overlapping coverage areas. In reality, the ideal coverage of the power transmitted by the base station antenna is non-geometric because of inconsistency in signal strengths. A practical network will have cells of non-geometric shapes, with some areas not having the required signal strength for various reasons. The performance of the cellular system greatly

depends on the spatial configuration of Base Stations (BSs). FR is useful in assigning frequencies in hexagonal cells for densely and sparsely geographical distribution of subscribers of GSM network.

2. Related Works

The demand for mobile services has been rising exponentially. However, the bandwidth and frequency spectrum to support these mobile services is critically limited. Due to limited and competitive scarce resources, GSM service providers need new tools to efficiently and effectively optimize the networks. Many techniques can be employed including frequency re-use, cell splitting, dynamic resource allocation, adaptive cell size algorithm [3] on a geometrically optimized covering cells. Geometric Disks Covering (GDC) is one of the most typical and well studied problems in computational geometry ([4]) and geometric topology.

Reference [5] applied geometric disks covering optimization to water carrot in crop management.

In reference [6] the authors designed optimal patterns for connected coverage in wireless networks with directional antenna's.

[7] studied how to cover a bounded square with a small number of circles, i.e., 6-8 and [8] extended their work up to 30 circles. Their patterns are highly specific, i.e., a unit square can be optimally covered by n discs with a specific radius.

In reference [9], the authors stated that tiling with squares and equilateral triangles are very useful tools to study several structural and thermodynamical properties of a wide variety of solids. However, neither squares nor rectangles yield optimal overlap for cell planning. This paper tend to investigate the single optimality in re-using the frequency from the well-known uniform to a non-uniform cell range using tillable hexagons in both overlap difference and overlap areas. Also, a relationship of overlap difference

for two non-uniform cell range have been computed.

3. Computational Experience

In a cellular communication system, cell shape varies depending on geographic, environmental and network parameters such as terrain and artificial structures properties, base station location and transmission power, accessing techniques, etc. We shall study the possible geometry of the cell shapes as shown in Figure 1.

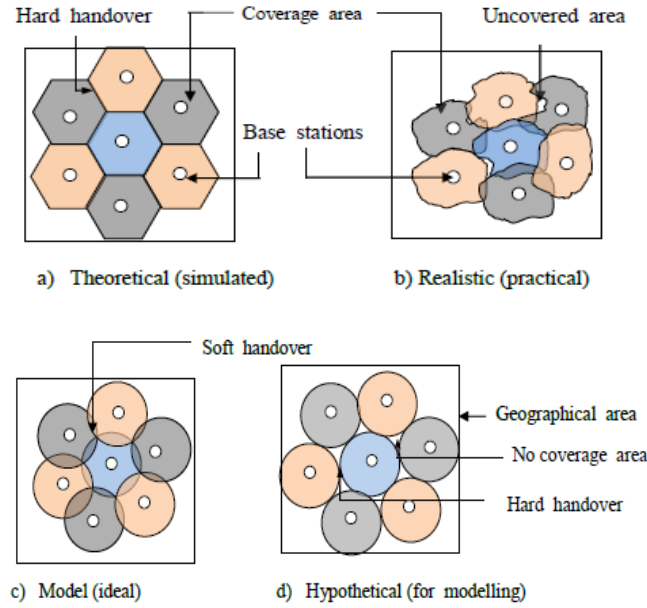
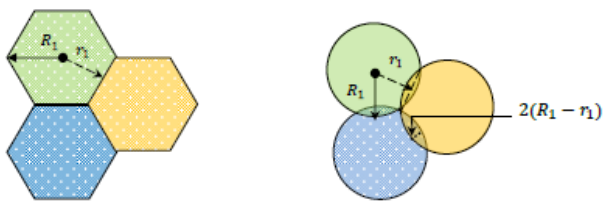


Figure 1: GSM cell shapes in radio networks

3.1 Overlap for Optimal Disks Covering

We consider simple layouts as shown in Figure 2. Figure 2(a) illustrates the hexagonal cell layout. The apothem and the circumradius of the hexagonal cell are r_1 and R_1 , respectively. In Figure 2(b), cells are partially overlapped because R_1 equals to the hexagon's circumradius. In this case, the model considers nodes not belonging to the cell of interest. Cited in [12], algebraically, the best positioning of the GSM network is where the hexagonal and circular cells overlap to give us a difference of $2(R_1 - r_1)$ as shown in Figure 2(a).



(a) Hexagonal cell layout (b) Idealized circular layout

Figure 2: Cell Layout Models For GSM Networks.

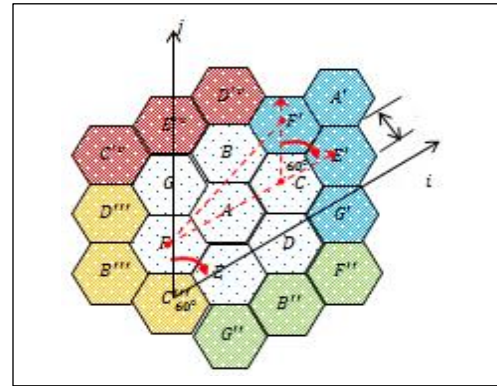
Theorem 1: For a hexagonal geometry of side ratio 1:1, the co-channel re-use ratio is given by

$$f_{ij} = \begin{cases} 3i & \text{for } i = j \\ \sqrt{3(i^2 + ij + j^2)} & \text{for } i \neq j \end{cases}$$

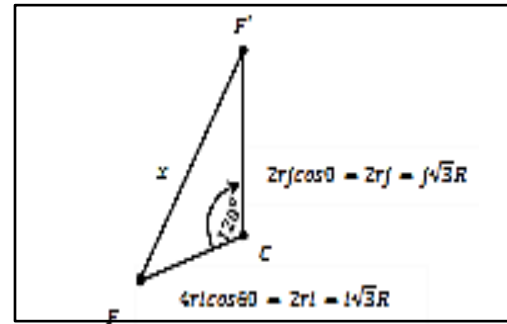
Where $N = i^2 + ij + j^2$ [10] is the cluster size for $i, j \in \mathbb{Z} \geq 0$.

Proof:

Consider the hexagonal geometric tessellation with seven different cells as shown in the Figure 3. The chain of hexagons is either along j vertical or 60° rotation of i cells.



(a) N-cluster cell ($N = 7$)



(b) x -Reuse Distance

Figure 3: Co-channel reuse ratio

Generally, for $N = i^2 + ij + j^2$ we can find the nearest co-channel neighbors of a particular cell:

- Move $i = 2$ cells along any chain of hexagons and then
- Turn 120° clockwise and move $j = 1$ cells.
- $N \in \mathbb{N}$ - Cluster size of cell
- $R \in \mathbb{R}$ - radius of circle equivalent to any one side of the hexagon

Using the cosine rule to find x from $\triangle ACF$:

$$x^2 = (i\sqrt{3}R)^2 + (j\sqrt{3}R)^2 - 2i \times (\sqrt{3}R)j \times (\sqrt{3}R)\cos 120^\circ$$

For broadband cellular access based on orthogonal frequency division multiple access, fractional frequency reuse (FFR) is crucial in justifying inter-cell interference and optimizing cell-edge performance. According to [11], in FFR, each cell is split into a center zone and an edge zone with their spectrum correspondingly partitioned into two parts. One part is allocated with re-use 1 in all cell-center zones. The second part is further split into sub-bands. These sub-bands, to be used in the cell-edges zones, have a higher reuse factor. We however, state a theorem permitting us to re-use co-channel cells of hexagons of different side lengths.

Case 1: Uniform cell range: $N:\aleph = 1:1$

$$n = i^2 + ij + j^2 \text{ as in Theorem 1}$$

Case 2: Non-uniform cell range: $N:\aleph = 1:2$

Then, $N = 1$ and $\aleph = 2$

$$n = i^2 + 2ij + 4j^2$$

Case 3: Non-uniform cell range: $N:\aleph = 1:3$

Then, $N = 1$ and $\aleph = 3$

$$n = i^2 + 3ij + 9j^2$$

Table 2: Cluster size and Frequency Re-use factor for non-uniform cells

Movement of cells (i, j)	$N:\aleph = 1:2$		$N:\aleph = 1:3$	
	Cluster size (n)	Co-channel re-use Ratio ($f_{ij} = \sqrt{3n}$)	Cluster size (n)	Co-channel re-use Ratio ($f_{ij} = \sqrt{3n}$)
(1,0)	1	1.732	1	1.732
(0,1)	4	3.464	9	5.196
(1,1)	7	4.583	13	6.245
(2,0)	4	3.464	4	3.464
(0,2)	16	6.928	36	10.392
(2,1)	12	6	19	7.550
(1,2)	21	7.937	43	11.358
(3,0)	9	5.196	9	5.196
(0,3)	36	10.392	81	15.588
Sequence	1, 4, 7, 9, 12, 16, 21, ...		1, 4, 9, 13, 19, 36, 43, 81, ...	

3.2 Overlap Difference in Hexagon-Inscribed Disks

Overlap in cell planning ensures smooth handover in GSM network. This overlap has no differential effect such as fading and attenuation in signals. Overlap may occur for smooth handover of cells and has the disadvantage of increasing the number of GSM masts as well as antenna required in a given area. A typical overlap may arise as a result of uniform cell radius (disks) or non-uniform cell radius.

Type I: Uniform Disks

It has been established by [8], that to cover a given plane with disks of radius R_1 and hexagonal apothem r_1 , we require an overlap difference of $2(R_1 - r_1)$. We deduce formulas for calculating the width of any hexagonal disks covering as shown in Table 2. Consider two intersecting uniform disks shown in Figure 4.

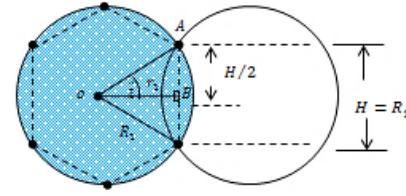


Figure 4: Overlap width for uniform disks (cell radius)

Type II: Non-uniform Disks

Non-uniform cell radius for two different GSM antenna masts with radii R and R_1 and corresponding apothem of r and r_1 would have a cell overlap difference of $R - r + 2R_1 - r_1$. A mixture of non-uniform cell radius results in many overlaps in effect give a rise in the number of GSM antenna mast to be erected. Here we have relatively wider area. The difference $R - r + 2R_1 - r_1 > 2(R_1 - r_1)$. This is illustrated in Figure 5.

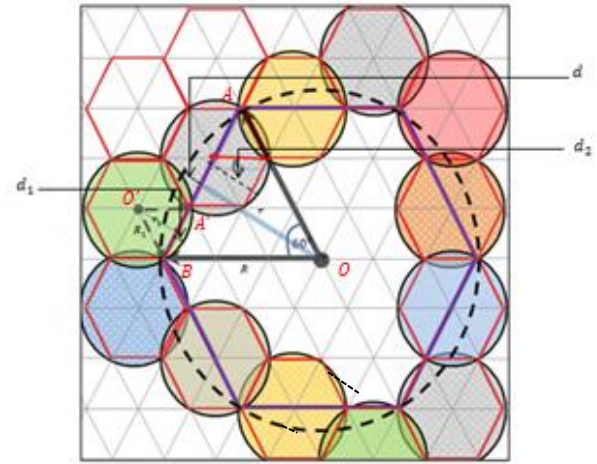


Figure 5: Overlap Difference for non-uniform Disks

The actual expression for the overlap difference can be calculated from Figure 5.

$$\text{Overlap difference} = R - r + R_1 - r_1 + R_1.$$

Case I: Triangle AOB

$$\text{Overlap difference } (d) = R - r$$

$$\sin 60^\circ = \frac{r}{R} \Rightarrow r = R \sin 60^\circ$$

$$\therefore r = \frac{R\sqrt{3}}{2}$$

$$\text{Overlap difference } (d) = \left(1 - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)R = \frac{1}{2}(2 - \sqrt{3})R$$

Case II: Triangle $A'O'B$

Overlap difference (d_1) = $R_1 - r_1$

Similarly, triangle $A'O'B$ is equilateral so $r_1 = \frac{R_1\sqrt{3}}{2}$.

Thus $d_1 = \frac{1}{2}(2 - \sqrt{3})R_1$.

Case III: Circle with diameter AA' .

Overlap difference of $d_2 = R_1$. Generally, for non-uniform cell range we have overlap difference

$$= d + d_1 + d_2$$

$$= R - r + R_1 - r_1 + R_1.$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}(2 - \sqrt{3})R + \frac{1}{2}(2 - \sqrt{3})R_1 + \frac{2R_1}{2}$$

$$d_n = \frac{1}{2}[(2 - \sqrt{3})R + (4 - \sqrt{3})R_1] \quad (2)$$

But this expression is far greater than $2(R_1 - r_1)$. Thus it is not prudent to consider covering with disks using non-uniform radii. Applicably, masting of GSM antenna for non-uniform cell range is economically unwise as well as inefficient in time complexity. Table 3 illustrates the occupying overlap difference for both uniform and non-uniform cell radius.

Table 3: Occupying width for uniform and non-uniform cell range.

GSM Cell Design Type	Uniform Cell Radius	Non-uniform Cell Radius
Overlap Difference (d_n)	$2(R_1 - r_1)$	$R - r + 2R_1 - r_1$
	$(2 - \sqrt{3})R_1$	$\frac{1}{2}[(2 - \sqrt{3})R + (4 - \sqrt{3})R_1]$
	$\frac{2}{3}(2\sqrt{3} - 3)r_1$	$\frac{1}{3}[(2\sqrt{3} - 3)r + (4\sqrt{3} - 3)r_1]$

It is also an establish fact that $R_1 > r_1$ and as R_1 increases the overlap difference (width - d_n) increases. This is due to the fact that the multipliers $(2 - \sqrt{3})$ and $(4\sqrt{3} - 3)$ for both uniform and non-uniform disks respectively are both greater than one (1), hence as $R_1 = f(r_1) \rightarrow \infty$, then $d_n \rightarrow \infty$. The resulting area is calculated by the following approaches.

3.3 Area of Single Overlap

Overlap areas in hexagonal tessellation can be created using either uniform or non-uniform cell range. We consider two cases

Case I: Uniform Cell radius

We have established that optimal disks covering is achieved when the cells overlap to give us a difference of $2(R_1 - r_1)$.

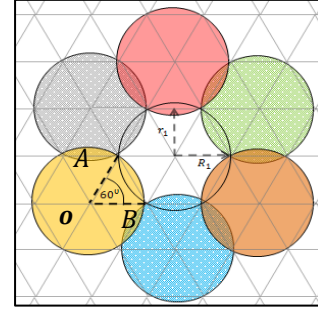


Figure 6: Area of a single Overlap for uniform Disks

From Figure 6 we have:

Area of single overlap = $2 \times (\text{area of sector } AOB - \text{area of triangle } AOB)$.

$$= 2 \times \left(\frac{1}{2} R_1^2 \theta - \frac{1}{2} R_1^2 \sin \theta \right)$$

$$A_s = R_1^2 (\theta - \sin \theta) \quad (3)$$

For an n -sided regular polygon the total overlap area (A_T) is given by

$$A_T = n R_1^2 (\theta - \sin \theta) \quad (4)$$

For hexagonal tiling, $\theta = \frac{\pi}{3}$ a single area is

$$A_s = R_1^2 \left(\frac{\pi}{3} - \sin \frac{\pi}{3} \right)$$

$$A_s = \frac{R_1^2}{6} (2\pi - 3\sqrt{3}) \quad (5)$$

Equation (5) is the formula for calculating excess area coverage loss (due to overlaps) when a pair of GSM masts are positioned with an overlap difference of $2(R_1 - r_1)$. The multiplier $0 < \frac{(2\pi - 3\sqrt{3})}{6} < 1$ widens the quadratic relationship between the area overlap and the radius of the inscribed hexagon in equation (5). In field work, an overlap has the differential disadvantage of reducing the coverage area to be covered. As a result the overlap area must be kept as small and few as possible - optimization. Equation (5) can be modified using the fact that $R_1 = \frac{2r_1}{\sqrt{3}}$, then

$$\text{Area of single overlap} = \frac{4r_1^2}{3} \times \frac{1}{6} (2\pi - 3\sqrt{3})$$

$$= \frac{2r_1^2}{9} (2\pi - 3\sqrt{3}) \quad (6)$$

Case II: Non-uniform Cell Radius

Non-uniform cell radius for two different GSM antenna masts with radii R and R_1 with corresponding apothem of r and r_1 would have a cell overlap difference of $R - r + 2R_1 - r_1$. This is illustrated in Figure 7.

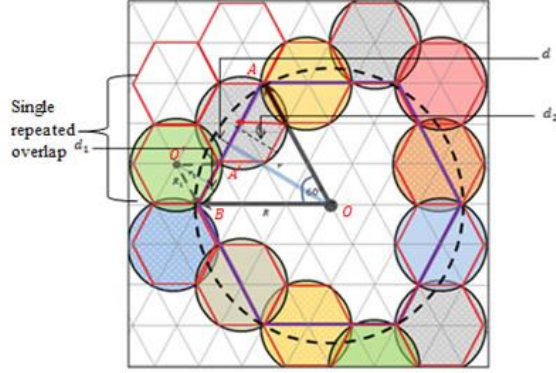


Figure 7: Area of overlap for non-uniform disks

Area of a single repeated overlap

$A_{s'} = \text{area of bigger sector } AOB - \text{area of } \Delta AOB + \text{area of smaller sector } A'O'B - \text{area of } \Delta A'O'B + (\text{area of circle with diameter } AA' \div 2)$

$$= \frac{1}{2}R^2\theta - \frac{1}{2}R^2\sin\theta + \frac{1}{2}R_1^2\theta_1 - \frac{1}{2}R_1^2\sin\theta_1 + \frac{1}{2}\pi R_1^2$$

$$A_{s'} = \frac{1}{2} \left[R^2(\theta - \sin\theta) + R_1^2(\theta_1 - \sin\theta_1) + \frac{\pi}{2}R_1^2 \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}R^2 \left[\frac{\pi}{3} - \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{3}\right) \right] + \frac{1}{2}R_1^2 \left[\frac{\pi}{3} - \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{3}\right) \right] + \frac{\pi}{2}R_1^2$$

$$A_{s'} = \frac{1}{12} [R^2(2\pi - 3\sqrt{3}) + R_1^2(5\pi - 3\sqrt{3})] \quad (7)$$

But this expression for the area is repeated six(6) times for non-uniform disks covering. Hence the required total area is

$$A_{s'} = \frac{6}{12} [R^2(2\pi - 3\sqrt{3}) + R_1^2(5\pi - 3\sqrt{3})] \quad (8)$$

Equation (8) can be defined in terms of equation (3.8a) connecting the two different areas. The relationship is

$$A_{s'} = \frac{1}{2} [R^2(2\pi - 3\sqrt{3}) + 3\pi R_1^2 + R_1^2(2\pi - 3\sqrt{3})]$$

$$A_{s'} = \frac{1}{2} [R^2(2\pi - 3\sqrt{3}) + 3\pi R_1^2 + A_s] \quad (9)$$

Since $R > 0$ and $R_1 > 0$ the expression $R^2(2\pi - 3\sqrt{3}) + 3\pi R_1^2 > 0$ as well as $R^2(2\pi - 3\sqrt{3}) +$

$3\pi R_1^2 > A_s$. Thus, there is no possibility that $A_{s'} = A_s$; therefore making the value of $A_{s'} > A_s$. As a result the area of a single overlap difference in the uniform cell radius (equation 5) is smaller than that of the non-uniform cell radius (equation 9). It is not cost efficient for telecom engineers as well as industrial mathematicians to consider non-uniform GSM cell radius with number of intersecting cells more than that with an overlap difference of $2(R_1 - r_1)$.

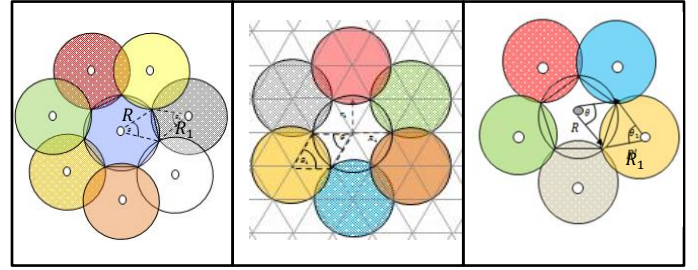
We shall however find a relationship between the inner angle θ and the outer angle θ_1 as well as inner radius R and outer radius R_1 for a regular polygon of side n .

$$\text{Case I: } \theta_1 = k_n \theta$$

where

$$k_n \begin{cases} > 1, \text{ for } n > 6 \\ = 1, \text{ for } n = 6 \\ < 1, \text{ for } n < 6 \end{cases}$$

Geometrically,



(a) Pentagon ($\theta_1 < \theta$) (b) Hexagon ($\theta_1 = \frac{\pi}{3}$) (c) Heptagon ($\theta_1 > \theta$)

Figure 8: Angular and Radii relationship for uniform and non-uniform disks

$$\text{Case II: } R = f(R_1) \text{ i.e. } R_1: f^{-1} \rightarrow R$$

There is a linear relationship between R and R_1 . For a GSM with large cell radius as centre and small cell radius as rings covering its circumference as in Figure 8 we have the mathematical linear relationship

$$R = k_n R_1 \quad (10)$$

$$\text{where } K_n \begin{cases} > 1, \text{ for } n > 6 \\ = 1, \text{ for } n = 6 \\ < 1, \text{ for } n < 6 \end{cases}$$

Table 3 illustrates example of the linear relationship between R_1 and R in equilateral triangle, square, pentagon and hexagon.

Table 4: Relationship between R_1 and R for some k_n .

Polygon	Equilateral triangle	Square	Pentagon	Hexagon
Sides	3	4	5	6
Angle at centre (θ, θ_1)	$\frac{2\pi}{3}, \theta_1 < \frac{2\pi}{3}$	$\frac{\pi}{2}, \theta_1 < \frac{\pi}{2}$	$\frac{2\pi}{5}, \theta_1 < \frac{2\pi}{5}$	$\frac{\pi}{3}, \frac{\pi}{3}$
Overlap area	$\frac{1}{2} [1.23R^2 + R_1^2]$ $(\theta_1 - \sin\theta_1)$	$\frac{1}{2} [0.57R^2 + R_1^2]$ $(\theta_1 - \sin\theta_1)$	$\frac{1}{2} [0.31R^2 + R_1^2]$ $(\theta_1 - \sin\theta_1)$	$\frac{1}{2} [0.18R^2 + R_1^2]$ $(\theta_1 - \sin\theta_1)$
Radii - R, R_1	$R, R\sqrt{3}$	$R, R\sqrt{2}$	$R, \frac{R}{2}\sqrt{10 - 2\sqrt{5}}$	R, R
Overlap area	$\frac{1}{2} [1.23R^2 + 3R^2]$ $(\theta_1 - \sin\theta_1)$	$\frac{1}{2} [0.57R^2 + 2R^2]$ $(\theta_1 - \sin\theta_1)$	$\frac{1}{2} [0.31R^2 + 1.38R^2]$ $(\theta_1 - \sin\theta_1)$	$0.181R^2$

4. Discussion of Results

In this paper we discussed the ratio of area of tessellable polygons to that of a circle. We established the fact that among the three tessellable regular polygons the area of hexagon approximates that of a circle more closely than any other regular tessellable polygon. This proof was further confirmed in the least overlap area $0.181R^2$ as shown in Table 4. The study lead us to a formula for calculating the generalized co-channel re-use ratio. Variant overlap difference was obtained for both uniform and non-uniform cell range and it was found that $2(R_1 - r_1) < R - r + 2R_1 - r_1$. The overlap area for uniform cell range is known to be calculated using $\frac{R_1^2}{6}(2\pi - 3\sqrt{3})$ or $\frac{2r_1^2}{9}(2\pi - 3\sqrt{3})$ and that of the non-uniform cell range is $\frac{1}{12}[R^2(2\pi - 3\sqrt{3}) + R_1^2(5\pi - 3\sqrt{3})]$. The study also establishes that a cell site planed with $n < 6$ will have both apothem and radius to be related of the form $R < R_1$ and inner and outer angle at centre of the form $\theta_1 < \theta$. Nonetheless, when $n > 6$, $R > R_1$ and $\theta_1 > \theta$ otherwise $R = R_1$ and $\theta_1 = \theta$. Table 3.3 establishes this relationships for the radius, angle and area of overlaps for sample polygons.

5. Conclusion

We found that GSM cell design requires a lot of geometric and algebraic calculations that aid in planning and analyzing of wireless networks. This was due to the fact that overlap difference for uniform cell range in GSM design network $2(R_1 - r_1)$ is far less than that of the non-uniform cell range $R - r + 2R_1 - r_1$. This result was consistent to the area coverage as uniform cell design has wider coverage area with fewer masts

than non-uniform cell design. We use geometry to establish a formula for the co-channel re-use ratio and the cluster size which is systematic and transparent as compared to the arbitrary selection of frequency in telecommunication network design. An industrial mathematician or a cell planner needs to have an in-depth mathematical skill when deciding how assign frequencies to cells in order to be efficient.

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