

Claim

1. A method of operation in a mobile communication system (100) including a plurality of mobile stations (104-107), a base station operable to serve the mobile stations with wireless communications and, associated with the base station, a channel selector (309) operable to allocate downlink wireless traffic communication channels for sending downlink wireless traffic signals by the base station to the served mobile stations, the method comprising:

obtaining (417) an estimate of a ready time when a downlink wireless traffic signal including traffic data received from a source remote to the base station to be sent to at least one of the served mobile stations will be ready for sending;

selecting and allocating (421) for sending the downlink traffic signal a downlink traffic channel which is the first downlink traffic channel available following the estimated ready time; and

in parallel to the obtaining an estimate and selecting and estimating a downlink traffic channel, exchanging (407) preliminary call set-up signaling between the base station and the source remote from the base station.

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