

number 52), but still we were able to find a 10 channel solution which is not far from the lower bound computed by the DABTool program, a clique packing number of 9.

Thus the DABTool software already seems capable of solving small to medium-sized real-world problems. The lower bound algorithms of the software turned out to be very useful to assess the quality of the computed solutions. Nevertheless some work still needs to be done. Some directions for future research and development are pointed out below:

- integration of other, improved ensemble planning algorithms (such as Thomas McKenney's tabu search technique described in this volume);
- more systematic test series and "fine-tuning" of the developed solution techniques;
- extensions for a practical DAB planning software (user interface, database, optimizations for large-scale planning problems);
- research on improved ensemble planning algorithms and lower bounds for generalized problem statements (additional constraints and target functions).

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