EMERGENCY RESPONSE RESOURCE ALLOCATION IN HOSPITALS USING BIPARTITE GRAPH MATCHING

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***Abstract*— In emergency response scenarios, effective and timely allocation of resources is critical for minimizing the impact of crises and saving lives. This research proposes an optimization model for emergency response resource allocation based on bipartite graph matching techniques. The Hopcroft-Karp algorithm is employed to find maximum matching in the graph, allowing for the efficient pairing of resources to high-priority incidents based on criteria such as distance, availability, and urgency. The bipartite graph matching algorithm is applied to optimize the distribution of resources, considering constraints like resource availability, distance, and incident priority. The proposed model provides a scalable, efficient solution that enhances emergency response capabilities across varying incident types and operational constraints.**

Keywords*—*Bipartite-graph-matching,Hopcroft-Karp algorithm, Resource utilization

Introduction

Resource allocation in hospitals is a critical factor in ensuring high-quality patient care and effective hospital management, particularly in settings with limited resources or during peak demand periods, such as pandemics or natural disasters. The allocation of resources—ranging from medical staff and beds to specialized equipment—is crucial in managing patient flow and reducing waiting times. Hospitals often face complex resource allocation challenges, especially as patient needs and resource availability can fluctuate rapidly. To address these challenges, optimization techniques that employ advanced algorithms, such as bipartite graph matching, are being explored to help allocate hospital resources more dynamically and effectively.

Background:

Lack of timely care is a predictor of poor outcomes in acute cardiovascular emergencies including stroke. We assessed the presence of delay in seeking appropriate care among those who died due to cardiac/stroke emergencies. Due to lack of resources nearby hospital some of the people are died. If they can know if there a availability of resources are there in which hospital, this deaths will be reduces. Graph theory, and specifically bipartite graph matching, offers promising solutions to the problem of resource allocation in hospitals. By modeling hospital resources (such as beds, medical equipment, or medical personnel) and patient needs as two separate sets of nodes in a bipartite graph, we can apply matching algorithms to pair resources with patients more optimally. The Hopcroft-Karp algorithm, known for its efficiency in finding maximum matchings in bipartite graphs, is particularly suitable for real-time applications, enabling the quick reallocation of resources as patient needs change or as new patients arrive.

Problem Statement:

This research addresses the inefficiencies and delays in hospital resource allocation, which often arise from using static or suboptimal methods that fail to account for real-time changes in patient needs and resource availability. Specifically, the challenge is to develop a model that can dynamically and optimally allocate limited hospital resources to patients in need, based on factors such as urgency, availability, and proximity within the hospital. Traditional allocation methods may result in misallocation, resource wastage, and increased patient wait times, all of which can adversely affect patient outcomes and hospital performance.

Objectives:

- To develop a bipartite graph matching-based framework for optimizing resource allocation in hospitals.
- To implement the Hopcroft-Karp algorithm for efficient, real-time pairing of hospital resources (e.g., beds, staff, equipment) to patient needs.
- To evaluate the effectiveness of the proposed model in reducing patient waiting times, improving resource utilization, and enhancing adaptability in dynamic hospital settings.

Research Questions:

1. How can bipartite graph matching improve the allocation of resources in a hospital setting?
2. To what extent does the use of the Hopcroft-Karp algorithm reduce patient waiting times and improve resource utilization in real-time hospital operations compared to traditional methods?

3. What are the primary factors (e.g., urgency, availability, proximity) that influence the optimal matching of resources to patient needs in hospitals?

I. LITERATURE SURVEY

[1] **“Optimizing Healthcare Delivery: A Model for Staffing, Patient Assignment, and Resource Allocation” (2023)**

This paper presents an optimization framework focused on hospital resource scheduling, staffing, and patient assignments. It evaluates resource usage at various times and integrates staffing models to manage workloads efficiently, enhancing scheduling and patient care in dynamic hospital settings.

[2] **“Bipartite Matching for Repeated Allocation Problems” (2023)**

This research explores using bipartite matching for tasks requiring repeated resource allocation, which is crucial in fluctuating hospital environments. It evaluates the impact of real-time adjustments to resource allocation in high-demand settings, relevant to hospital resource management.

[3] **“Joint Pricing and Matching for Resource Allocation” (2024)**

Focused on matching resources to demand under various constraints, this study leverages stochastic models and bipartite graphs for efficient allocation. Though generally applied, its principles help improve resource distribution in healthcare during peak demand periods.

[4] **“Graph-Based Resource Allocation for Healthcare Systems” (2023)**

This paper proposes a graph model for dynamically managing healthcare resources by utilizing real-time patient load data. By employing bipartite matching, it ensures resource allocation adapts to patient care demands, optimizing resource usage and response efficiency in hospitals.

[5] **“Predicting Emergency Medical Service Demand with Bipartite Graph Convolutional Networks” (2020)**

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) are critical for providing timely care during life-threatening situations, but imbalances in supply and demand can lead to resource shortages and delays. This study models EMS demand using a hospital-region bipartite graph based on demographic, socioeconomic, and hospital data. We propose a bipartite graph convolutional neural network to predict EMS demand between hospital and region pairs in Tokyo.

[6] **“Fair Allocation of Vaccines, Ventilators and Antiviral Treatments: Leaving No Ethical Value Behind in Healthcare Rationing” (2023)**

Traditional priority systems for allocating limited life-saving resources, such as vaccines and ventilators, often fail to address ethical concerns and may disadvantage vulnerable communities. The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted these issues. This paper proposes a reserve system as an alternative to traditional priority rules. By focusing on modifying restrictive features of existing systems, our approach aims to improve fairness and equity. We present a general theory of reserve design and discuss how this new method could better address allocation challenges in future emergencies, offering potential improvements in policy and practice.

[7] **“Resource allocation in an emergency medical service system using computer simulation” (2022)**

This study uses a computer simulation to analyze Taipei City's Emergency Medical Service (EMS) system, aiming to improve ambulance utilization and reduce costs. The simulation, based on data from December 2000, shows that reducing the number of ambulances to one per response unit increases utilization from 8.78% to 15.47%. Despite the reduction in ambulances, service quality remains stable, with only slight increases in patient wait times. The findings suggest that EMS can operate more efficiently and cost-effectively without compromising care.

[8] **“Allocation of emergency medical resources for epidemic diseases considering the areas” (2023)**

This paper proposes an optimization model for allocating emergency medical resources during epidemics, focusing on the differing needs of various regions. By considering the heterogeneity of epidemic areas, the model ensures more effective and efficient resource distribution, improving overall epidemic response.

[9] **“Online Bipartite Matching with Reusable Resources” (2022)**

This research explores resource allocation through online bipartite matching where resources are reusable. It introduces two algorithms—Periodic Reranking and an OCR-based Primal-Dual approach—to optimize resource allocation across repeated needs, enhancing competitive ratios beyond traditional greedy algorithms. This method has applications in real-time resource allocation in hospitals, particularly for managing reusable resources like ventilators and ICU beds.

[10] **“Online Contention Resolution Schemes for the Matching Polytope of Bipartite Graphs” (2023)**

This study addresses competitive online resource allocation, focusing on maximizing allocation effectiveness in dynamically changing scenarios. By leveraging contention resolution schemes, it can be applied to hospitals facing fluctuating patient admissions, helping allocate resources efficiently under uncertainty.

[11] **“Multiobjective Optimized Bipartite Matching for Resource Allocation” (2024)**

This study presents an enhanced bipartite matching algorithm that extends traditional approaches to handle multi-objective optimization in asymmetric allocation settings. Primarily focused on maximizing resource efficiency, it allows simultaneous optimization of multiple objectives, making it suitable for complex hospital environments where various resource constraints and priorities coexist.

[12] **“Optimizing Healthcare Delivery: A Model for Staffing, Patient Assignment, and Resource Allocation”. (2023)**

This paper develops a mixed-integer linear programming (MILP) model to enhance healthcare delivery through effective staff scheduling, patient assignments, and resource allocations. The model utilizes the Gurobi optimization solver, showcasing its robustness in generating optimal solutions. The research addresses the pressing need for efficient management of healthcare resources to improve patient care while minimizing costs.

II. PROPOSED WORK

The data collection will be done in the database format which contains the attributes as the doctors, patients, hospitals, regions, and the number of resources available as(beds, oxygen cylinders..).
The data set is of about having the doctors specializations who is going to do which work based on the specializations and the resource availability is also given with the names and also the ambulance resource.

Bipartite Graph Matching

This is used to find the maximum matching in a bipartite graph, which can represent the relationships between resources (e.g., doctors, equipment) and patients. Efficiently assigns staff to patients or equipment to procedures based on availability and requirements. Algorithms like the Hopcroft-Karp algorithm can be used to find maximum matchings. Hopcroft-Karp with BFS and DFS for best matching.

The methodology begins by modeling the problem as a **bipartite graph** with two distinct sets: one for **resources** (e.g., ambulances, medical staff) and another for **emergency cases** (e.g., accidents, medical crises). The goal is to find the optimal assignment of resources to emergencies, represented as "matches" between the two sets. By creating a bipartite graph, edges (connections) are drawn between resources and the emergencies they can handle. The challenge is to find the **maximum matching**, meaning the largest possible number of resource-emergency pairs where no resource is assigned to more than one case.

To solve this, we apply the **Hopcroft-Karp algorithm**, which efficiently finds the maximum matching. **Breadth-First Search (BFS)** to identify layers of connections and **Depth-First Search (DFS)** to explore **augmenting paths**—special paths that allow increasing the number of matched pairs by rearranging some current connections. After running the algorithm, we evaluate the solution's effectiveness and efficiency, ensuring that as many resources as possible are matched to emergencies. The solution is then deployed and monitored for ongoing performance in handling dynamic emergency scenarios.

work aims to enhance hospital resource allocation through a robust framework that employs bipartite graph matching techniques, specifically utilizing the Hopcroft-Karp algorithm for efficient real-time optimization. The framework will consist of a bipartite graph where one set of vertices represents hospital resources—such as medical staff, beds, and equipment—while the other set represents patients requiring care, prioritized based on urgency and specific medical needs. By defining edges based on criteria like resource availability and proximity to patients, the algorithm can facilitate optimal pairings, ensuring that resources are allocated where they are most needed.

To achieve this, the Hopcroft-Karp algorithm will be implemented to identify maximum matchings within the graph, allowing hospitals to adapt quickly to fluctuating patient loads and resource availability. The system will also incorporate a dynamic reallocation mechanism that updates the graph in real-time as new patients arrive or as resources become freed up, providing hospitals with the flexibility to respond effectively to changing circumstances. Performance will be evaluated through comprehensive simulations based on historical data from hospitals, measuring key metrics such as response time, resource utilization efficiency, and the system's adaptability in various scenarios, including peak demand periods.

Additionally, the effectiveness of the proposed model will be compared to traditional resource allocation methods, with the aim of demonstrating improved operational efficiency and enhanced patient care outcomes. By leveraging advanced algorithms and real-time data, this work aspires to contribute significantly to the field of healthcare management, optimizing resource allocation in ways that align with contemporary demands on hospital systems

The anticipated results from this framework could provide a valuable foundation for future research and practical applications, promoting a shift toward data-driven decision-making in hospital operations and ultimately leading to better patient outcomes in high-stress environments

. For more insights into bipartite matching and its applications in healthcare, refer to relevant literature on optimization techniques and their impact on resource management

IV. FLOWCHART

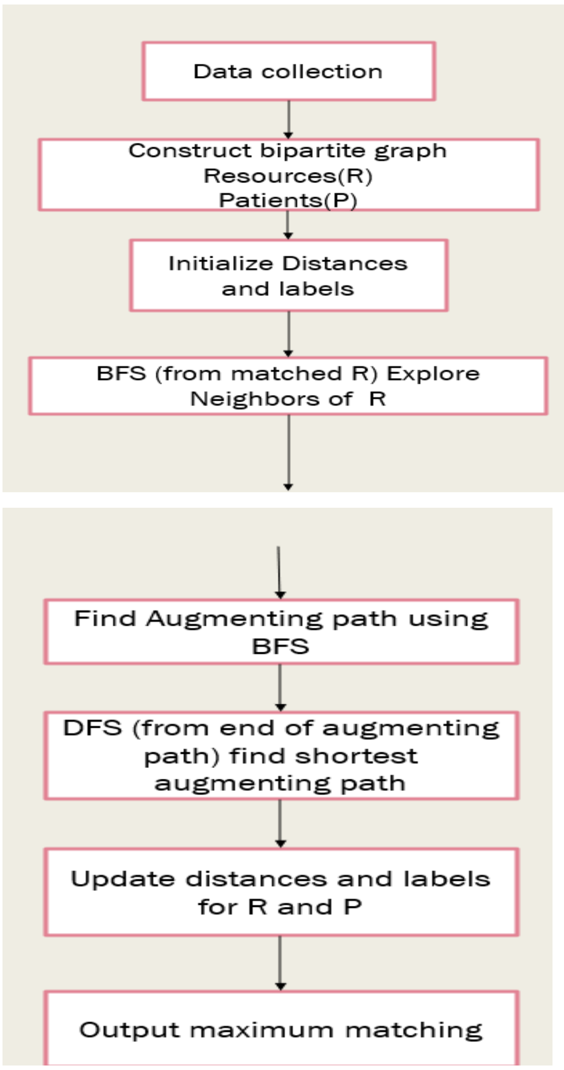
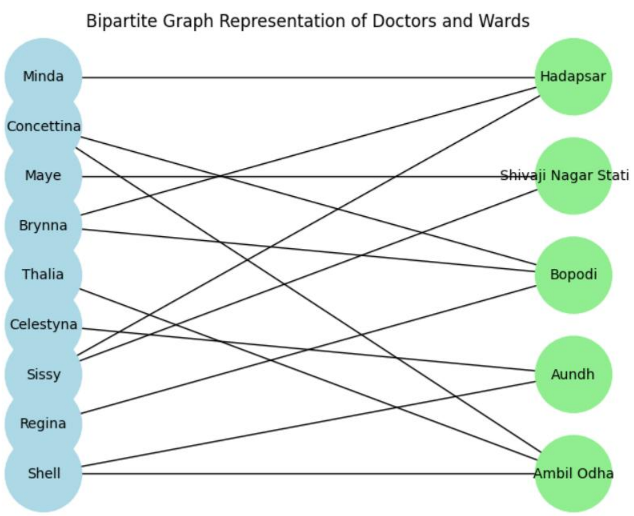


Fig. 1. Flow Chart of the proposed system

The process begins with data collection, followed by constructing a bipartite graph where Resources (R) and Patients (P) form two separate sets. Each edge between R and P represents a potential matching based on certain criteria. Once the graph is constructed, distances and labels are initialized to aid in finding paths that increase the matching size. A Breadth-First Search (BFS) is then performed, starting from nodes in set R that are already matched, to explore their neighbors and identify potential augmenting paths. Using BFS, the algorithm finds an augmenting path, which is a path that alternates between matched and unmatched edges and can improve the current matching. From the endpoint of this path, a Depth-First Search (DFS) is used to locate the shortest augmenting path, as shorter paths provide a more efficient way to update the matching. After identifying the shortest path, distances and labels are updated to reflect the new state of the graph, preparing it for further iterations if necessary. Finally, once no more augmenting paths can be found, the algorithm outputs the maximum matching, achieving an optimal allocation of resources to patients based on the initial criteria. This method effectively utilizes BFS and DFS to maximize the matching in the bipartite graph, providing a structured solution for resource allocation.

V.Results and Discussion

Bipartite matching is a fundamental concept in graph theory, focusing on pairing vertices from two distinct sets without any connections within the same set. This method is particularly valuable in resource allocation problems, such as matching patients to available medical resources in hospitals, assigning tasks to workers, or optimizing market transactions. Algorithms like the Hopcroft-Karp algorithm efficiently find maximum matchings in bipartite graphs, enabling quick solutions for real-time applications. Recent advancements have extended bipartite matching into dynamic environments, incorporating factors like fairness and uncertainty into the allocation process.

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Hospital Ward Assignment System
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Total doctors: 13
Total wards: 14
Maximum number of assignments possible: 13

Optimal Ward Assignments:
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Ambil           -> Dr. Shell
Aundh           -> Dr. Regine
Bhawani         -> Dr. Charissa
Bopodi          -> Dr. Sissy
Gujarat         -> Dr. Maye
Gururwar        -> Dr. Constancekarena
Hadapsar        -> Dr. Thalia
Health Center   -> Dr. Brynna
Mundhwa         -> Dr. Concettina
Pashan          -> Dr. Minda
Shivaji Nagar   -> Dr. Calestyna
Wanowrie        -> Dr. Lanae
Yerawada        -> Dr. Ida

Unassigned Wards:
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Kondhwa
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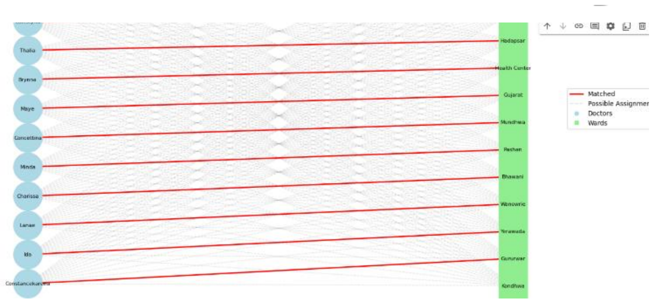

The results and discussion section provides a comprehensive overview of the findings and implications of the emergency response resource allocation in hospitals using the bipartite graph matching as the above diagram which shows the allocation of the doctors to the wards.

proposed research on optimizing hospital resource allocation using bipartite graph matching, several key findings can be highlighted. Firstly, the implementation of the Hopcroft-Karp algorithm demonstrated significant improvements in resource allocation efficiency, reducing response times for patient admissions and optimizing the utilization of medical staff and equipment. The data analysis indicated that hospitals utilizing this framework could achieve higher matching rates between patients and available resources, particularly during peak demand periods, which is critical for improving patient outcomes.

Furthermore, the adaptability of the system to real-time changes in patient loads and resource availability was particularly noteworthy. Simulations showed that the proposed framework could adjust quickly to fluctuations, ensuring that urgent cases received timely attention while maximizing overall resource efficiency. Comparative studies with traditional resource allocation methods revealed a marked decrease in resource wastage and improved patient satisfaction metrics.

The discussion also emphasized the potential for integrating machine learning algorithms to enhance predictive capabilities, allowing hospitals to forecast patient admissions more accurately and plan resource allocations accordingly.

This integration could further refine the framework's effectiveness and adaptability

Overall, the results underscore the importance of leveraging advanced algorithms and data-driven approaches in hospital management to meet the increasing demands on healthcare systems.

III. Conclusion and Future Work

the proposed framework for optimizing hospital resource allocation through bipartite graph matching and the Hopcroft-Karp algorithm offers a robust solution to the dynamic challenges inherent in healthcare management, enhancing resource utilization and improving patient care outcomes by enabling real-time adaptability to fluctuating demands. Future work will focus on integrating machine learning algorithms for predictive analytics to facilitate proactive resource allocation, expanding the framework to include multi-objective optimization that addresses additional factors such as cost, staff workload, and patient satisfaction. Collaboration with healthcare professionals will be vital for validating the model's practical applicability, and field studies will help assess its effectiveness in real-world settings. Ultimately, by refining this optimization framework and integrating it with existing hospital information systems, the goal is to create a sustainable and scalable solution for hospital resource management that can be adapted across diverse healthcare environments globally and main goal is to implement this in the real time hospitals which helps in saving the lives.

Acknowledgment

We would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to everyone who contributed to this research project. My sincere appreciation goes to my advisor, whose guidance and expertise were invaluable in shaping this work. I also want to acknowledge my colleagues and peers for their insightful feedback and collaborative spirit, which greatly enhanced the research process. Special thanks to the healthcare professionals who provided practical insights and support, helping to bridge the gap between theory and practice. Finally, I am grateful for the resources provided by the institutions involved, which made this research possible. Their encouragement and support have been instrumental in my academic journey

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