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ENHANCING THE WI-FI DIRECT PROTOCOL FOR VEHICULAR AD-HOC NETWORKS

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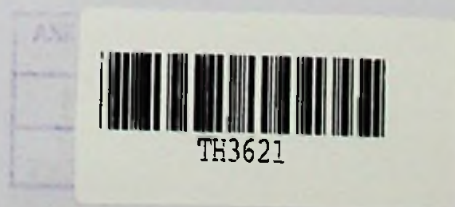
Thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree
Master of Science *By Research*

Department of Electronic and Telecommunication Engineering

University of Moratuwa
Sri Lanka

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June 2018



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Declaration

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Abstract

We present a technique for enhancing Wi-Fi Direct (WD) for vehicular environments. Dedicated short range communication (DSRC) has been standardized for communication in Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS). However, due to high costs at initiation, alternative communication strategies are of interest in order to facilitate the quick deployment of ITSs. WD, which is a relatively mature technology available in mobile devices, has come across as a possible alternate candidate. However, the presence of large communication delays in the WD protocol stack is a shortcoming in deploying this in highly dynamic vehicular scenarios. The objective of our work is to propose and evaluate a method to overcome some of the large transmission delays in WD. Our proposal is to use a broadcast mechanism in the downlink between the group owner (GO) and the clients of a WD group, as an alternative to the currently used peer-to-peer (P2P) method.

We study our technique by simulating a bi-directional highway scenario with multiple lanes. We set up the vehicular channel model using two well-known models: Friis propagation model and the Nakagami fading model. Performance measures such as average total delay, average energy consumption of the GO, average packet loss ratio, and average packet reception ratio are presented.

While the proposed GO Broadcast method reduces the downlink delay, it increases the probability of packet losses due to the lack of retransmissions. Our results demonstrate a gain in terms of average total delay and the average energy consumption of the GO. We use a theoretical analysis as well as a simulation study using OMNeT++. It is also shown that the degradation in performance on the downlink due to packet losses is within tolerable limits, given that the size of the group is selected properly.

Index terms— Broadcast mechanism, Group formation, Peer-to-Peer (P2P), Vehicular Ad-hoc Network (VANET), Wi-Fi Direct (WD)

Acknowledgements

First and foremost, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my supervisors Dr. Tharaka Samarasinghe and Prof. Dileeka Dias for their precious advice, valuable insights, and guidance throughout the research. I thank them for sharing their expertise, and specially for making time in their busy schedules to help me with my Masters.

In addition to my supervisors, I would like to thank Dr. Asanga Udugama, for being my progress committee chair and for his assistance and comments for improving and completing the research. I would also like to thank Dr. Ruwan Udayanga, for being my progress committee member and for providing valuable comments throughout my Masters.

I would like to thank my university, The University of Moratuwa, for providing me financial support throughout this year.

I wish to thank my colleagues who helped me directly and indirectly.

Last but not least, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to my beloved parents, sisters, for their endless support, love, and care.

This work was supported by the Senate Research Committee under grant SR-C/LT/2015/07.

Thank you

Wageesha Nilmini Manamperi

Contents

Declaration	i
Abstract	ii
Acknowledgement	iv
1 Introduction	1
1.1 VANETs	1
1.2 Why Wi-Fi direct ?	3
1.3 Focus of the thesis	4
1.4 Contributions and the outline of the thesis	5
2 Fundamentals and Background	7
2.1 Wi-Fi direct protocol	7
2.1.1 Group formation	8
2.1.2 Intent value calculation	11
2.2 Drawbacks of Wi-Fi direct	12
2.2.1 High group formation time	12
2.2.2 High transmission delay	12
2.2.3 Single point of failure of the group	13
2.3 Simulator	13
2.3.1 OMNeT++	13
2.3.2 INET framework	15
2.4 Related works	15
3 System Model	17
3.1 Topological model	17
3.2 Channel model	17
3.2.1 Path loss model	18
3.2.2 Fading model	19
3.3 Communication model	19

3.3.1	Peer-to-Peer model	20
3.3.2	Group owner broadcasting model	20
3.4	Summary	22
4	Theoretical Analysis of Performance Measures	23
4.1	Average total delay	23
4.2	Average energy consumption	26
4.3	Summary	28
5	Simulation Environment and Setup	29
5.1	Simulation environment	29
5.2	Simulation setup	31
5.2.1	Network configuration	31
5.2.2	Channel modeling	33
5.2.3	Device configuration	33
5.2.3.1	IEEE 802.11 NIC module	34
5.2.3.2	Mobility module	37
5.2.3.3	Energy consumed module	37
5.2.3.4	Timeout for GO to initiate data transmission	38
5.3	Performance evaluation	38
5.4	Summary	40
6	Results and Discussion	41
6.1	Average total delay	41
6.2	Average energy consumption of the group owner	44
6.3	Average packet loss ratio	47
6.4	Average packet reception ratio	49
6.5	Summary	52
7	Conclusions and Future Work	53
7.1	Conclusions	53
7.2	Future work	54
	Appendices	57
A	Sample codes	58
A.1	Network Configuration	58
A.2	Data transmission	66

List of Figures

1.1	Vehicle-to-vehicle communication. Example of an event-driven messages exchange through a highway scenario.	2
2.1	(a) Uplink: between the clients and the GO (b) Downlink: between the GO and the clients.	8
2.2	Example of a device discovery phase for two P2P devices.	9
2.3	Frame exchange sequences in the standard group formation procedure [11].	10
2.4	Architecture of OMNeT++.	14
3.1	Highway scenario.	18
3.2	P2P model: (a) uplink where clients send its data frames to the GO (b) downlink where GO forwards the received clients data frames and (c) downlink where GO sends its own data frame to the clients.	20
3.3	The information dissemination in the GOB model for the group size of n	21
3.4	GOB model: (a) uplink where clients send its data frames to the GO (b) downlink where GO aggregates all the data into a single frame and broadcasts to the clients.	22
4.1	(a) Uplink and (b) downlink frames exchanged inside the group in the standard WD protocol.	26
5.1	802.11 LAN module in INET framework of OMNeT++.	31
5.2	Channel model for WD in INET framework of OMNeT++.	33
5.3	Configuration parameters of the channel model in the INET framework of OMNeT++.	34
5.4	IEEE 802.11 NIC layered architecture in INET framework of OMNeT++.	35
5.5	Configuration parameters of the <i>agent</i> layer on IEEE 802.11 NIC in the INET framework of OMNeT++.	36

5.6	Configuration parameters of the <i>management</i> layer on IEEE 802.11 NIC in the INET framework of OMNeT++.	36
5.7	Configuration parameters of the <i>MAC</i> layer on IEEE 802.11 NIC in the INET framework of OMNeT++.	36
5.8	Configuration parameters of the <i>radio</i> layer on IEEE 802.11 NIC in the INET framework of OMNeT++.	36
5.9	Configuration parameters of the mobility module in the INET framework of OMNeT++.	37
5.10	Configuration parameters of the energy consumed module in the INET framework of OMNeT++.	38
5.11	Average delay on the uplink with respect to the number of vehicles in a group.	39
6.1	The theoretical analysis of average delay with respect to the number of vehicles in a group.	42
6.2	The behaviour of average delay with respect to the number of vehicles in a group for P2P model considering channel and topological models.	42
6.3	The behaviour of average delay with respect to the number of vehicles in a group for GOB model considering channel and topological models.	43
6.4	The behaviour of average delay with respect to the number of vehicles in a group for P2P and GOB models.	45
6.5	The behaviour of average energy consumption of the GO with respect to the number of vehicles in a group for both communication models.	46
6.6	The behaviour of average received power with respect to the distance to the sender for different values of m .	48
6.7	The maximum number of lost packets per one data transmission cycle with respect to the number of vehicles in a group for different values of m .	48
6.8	The behaviour of average PLR per vehicular node with respect to the number of vehicles in a group for different values of m .	49
6.9	CDF of the SINR for both different beacon generation time and the different fading intensities.	50

6.10 The average number of vehicles successfully received the broadcast frame with respect to the number of vehicles in a group for the beacon generation rate of 5 packets per second. 50

6.11 The behaviour of average PRR with respect to the number of vehicles in a group for both different beacon generation time and the different fading intensities. 51

List of Tables

2.1	Delays of WD protocol for the three group formation procedures: Autonomous, Standard, and Persistent [11].	11
5.1	System parameters for WD.	32
5.2	MAC configuration values for WD.	32

List of Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Description
ACK	Acknowledgement
AP	Access Point
BPSK	Binary Phase Shift Key
CSMA/CA	Carrier Sense Multiple Access with Collisions Avoidance
CTS	Clear to Send
D2D	Device-to-Device
DHCP	Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol
DSRC	Dedicated Short Range Communication
GO	Group Owner
IEEE	Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers
IP	Internet Protocol
ITS	Intelligent Transportation System
IV	Intent Value
LAN	Local Area Network
MAC	Medium Access Control
MANET	Mobile Ad-hoc Network
MTU	Maximum Transmission Unit
NED	NETwork Description
NIC	Network Interface Controller
OBU	On Board Unit
P2P	Peer To Peer
PLR	Packet Loss Ratio
PRR	Packet Reception Ratio
QoS	Quality of Services
RSSI	Received Signal Strength Indicator
RSU	Road Side Unit
RTS	Request to Send

SSRC	Stations Short Retry Count
V2I	Vehicle-to-Infrastructure
V2V	Vehicle-to-Vehicle
VANET	Vehicular Ad-hoc Network
WD	Wi-Fi Direct
WPS	Wi-Fi Protected Setup