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Introduction

- Problem Overview
- Topology and Results Summary
- Attempted Improvements
- Conclusions

Problem Statement

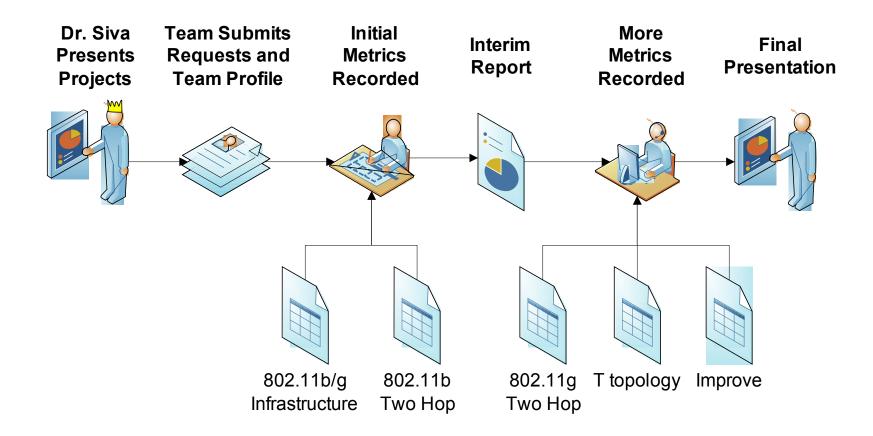
Using open source tools, setup appropriate network topologies and measure VoIP call capacity for 802.11b and 802.11g networks

Develop solutions to improve call capacity

Motivation

- WLANs are widely deployed
- VoIP has a promising future as the dominant voice communication method
- WLAN ad-hoc networks are ideal for communicating in disaster areas
- Important to measure the quality/capacity of VoIP traffic over WLANs

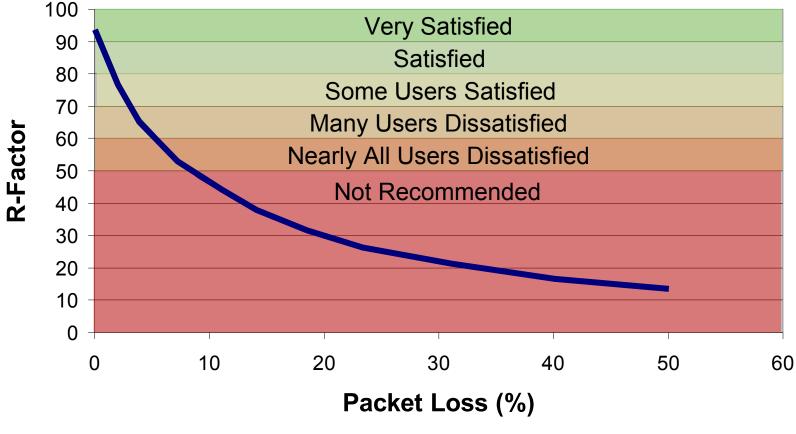
Milestones



R-Factor

ITU Recommendation G107 Introduced E-model which outputs R-factor based on perceptual and equipment impairments in its calculation.

Packet Loss and R-Factor

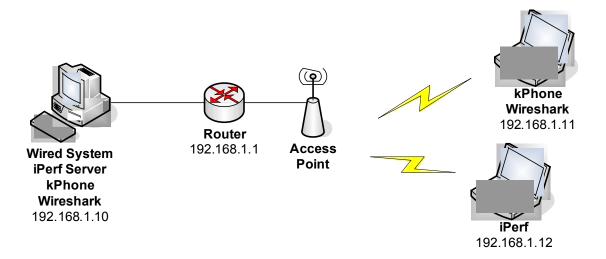


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Topologies Overview

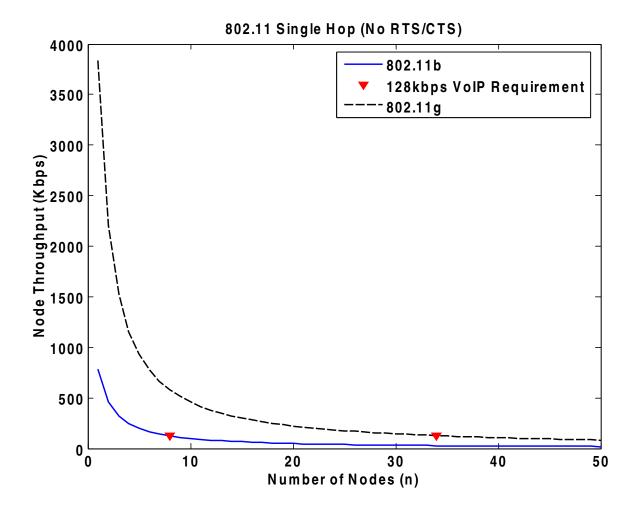
- Infrastructure
- Two Hop
- Cross Traffic T
- Two Hop with Improvements

Infrastructure



- Software: Linux, kPhone, iPerf, Wireshark
- Mix of lab and personal hardware
- Recording on *both* kPhone clients!

Theoretical Node Throughput



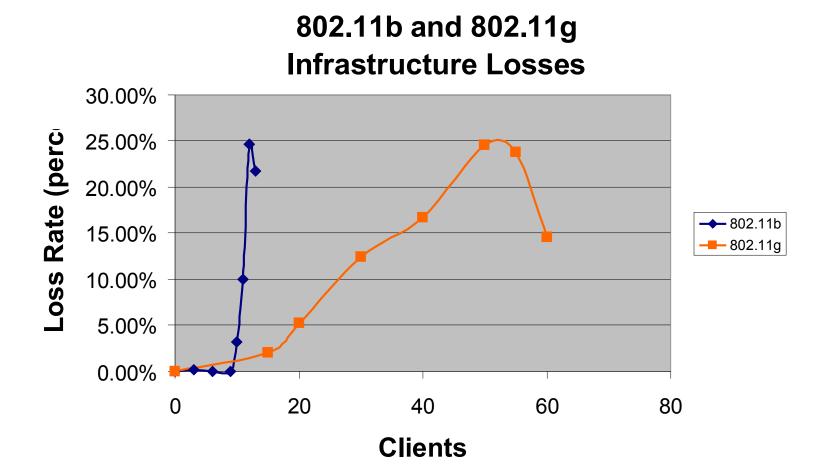
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Infrastructure (Cont.)

| Calls Supported | 802.11b | 802.11g |
|------------------------|---------|---------|
| Theoretical Max | 86 | 422 |
| Analytical | 8 | 34 |
| Measured | 11 | 30 |

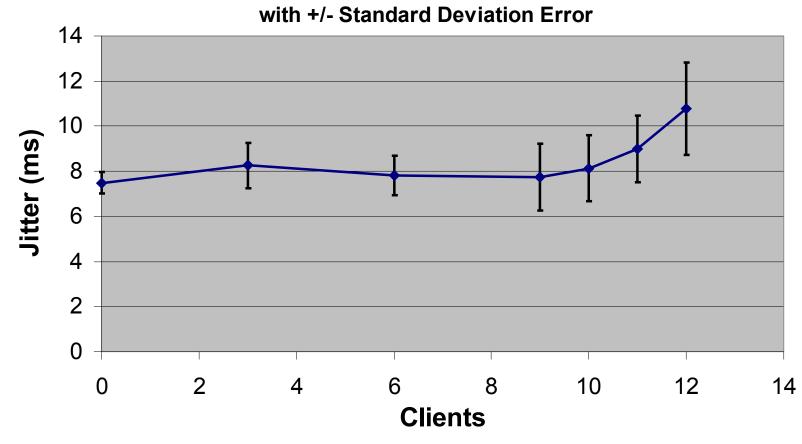
- Supported calls is substantially lower than expected
- Small packets and packet overhead reduce maximum calls
- Values inflated due to limited number of computers in the testbed

Loss Rates



Jitter

802.11b Infrastructure Jitter



Linear Multi-hop



Adhoc setup with Linux system acting as relay

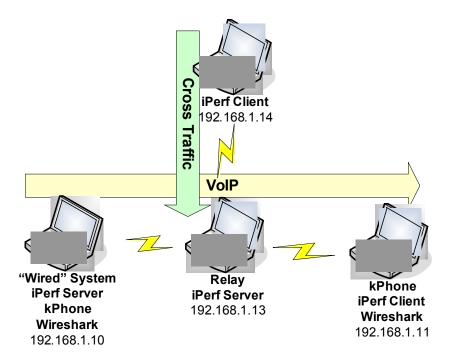
- Increased contention
- Wireshark recording on endpoints (NOT in the middle!)

Linear Multi-hop (Cont.)

| | 802.11b | 802.11g |
|--------------------|---------|---------|
| Calls Supported | 3 | 9 |

- Multiple hops reduces maximum
- Higher contention
- Excessive delay (2-5 seconds mean delay in test cases)

Cross Traffic T-Mode



- Increased contention
- Start of a grid

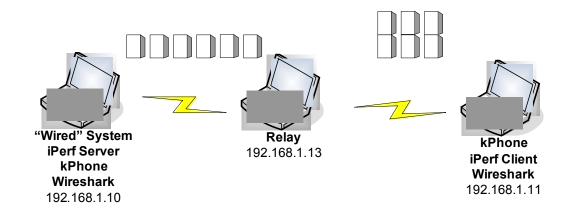
T-Mode (Cont.)

| | 802.11b | 802.11g |
|--------------------|---------|---------|
| Calls Supported | 5 | - |

Computers become overloaded in relay

Improvements

- Turn RTS/CTS on
- VoIP packet size increase
- Packet Aggregation



Improvements (Cont.)

| | RTS/CTS | Double Size | Aggregate |
|--------------------|---------|----------------|-----------|
| Calls Supported | 3 | 5 | 3-5 |

- RTS/CTS introduced extremely large delay but no improvements
- Some improvement in increased packet size
- Aggregation indicated small improvement
- Small improvements hard to measure in environment

Conclusions

- WLAN characteristics result in large delay and low VoIP call capacity
- Ad-hoc networks more affected by delay, infrastructure more affected by loss
- Improvements can be made by reducing the number of packets contending at any given time

Thanks for your attention

Feel free to ask questions!

04/24/07

All Losses

802.11 Losses

