rDCF: A Relay-enabled Medium Access Control Protocol for Wireless Ad Hoc Networks

Hao Zhu and Guohong Cao INFOCOM 2005

Speaker: J. C. Liu



• Advantage of two-hop relay

Nr (Relay node)



• MAC layer relay vs. Network layer forwarding

The Relay-enabled DCF (rDCF)

- Receiver-initiated channel condition measurement
 - The receiver notify the sender of the transmission rate via CTS.
 - If a node finds that the packets can be transmitted faster with the MAC layer relay, it adds the identity (e.g. MAC address) of the sender and the receiver into its willing list.
 - Periodically, each node advertises its willing list to its one-hop neighbors.

The Relay-enabled DCF (rDCF)

- The triangular handshake
 - If Ni cannot find a relay node, the standard DCF is applied.
 - Otherwise, Ni picks a relay node Nr and starts to coordinate the communication with Nr and Nj.



The Comparison of Two Different Carrier Sensing Schemes



Packet Type	The Duration
RTS	$CTS + \sigma + 2SIFS$
CTS	$DATA(L, R_{dir}) + \sigma + 2SIFS$
RRTS1	$RRTS2 + RCTS + 2\sigma + 3SIFS$
RRTS2	$RCTS + DATA(L, R_1) + 2\sigma + 3SIFS$
RCTS	$DATA(L, R_1) + DATA(L, R_2) + 2\sigma + 3SIFS$
Datadir	$ACK + \sigma + SIFS$
Data ₁	$DATA(L, R_2) + ACK + 2\sigma + 2SIFS$

TABLE I THE CALCULATIONS OF THE DURATION IN rDCF

Different Transmission Ranges



Data Packet Frame Format

• Reservation-sub-header (RSH)

 A RSH is inserted preceding the data frame and is sent at the same or lower rate compared to RTS.



The Impact of rDCF on Spatial Reuse





The Extended Sensing Area



d (meters)	210	220	230	240	250
Upper bound of increased					
sensing area (%)	11.5	10.5	9.2	8.2	7.2

TABLE II

THE IMPACT OF RELAY ON THE SENSING AREA

Throughput Gain: Analysis vs. Simulation



Impacts on Spatial Reuse



Impacts of Hidden Relay on rDCF



Performance Comparison







Performance Comparison



• • • Summary

- The paper presented a novel relayenabled DCF protocol, called rDCF, to exploit the physical layer multi-rate capability.
- Considering the bandwidth utilization and the dynamic nature of wireless channels, this paper also propose several techniques to enhance the performance of rDCF.

Discussion

• Relay-enabled PCF?

- Power saving
- QoS
- Relay-enabled super frame?