

A Survey on Link Correlation Aware Opportunistic Routing in Wireless Network

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ABSTRACT

Recent empirical studies have shown clear evidence that wireless links are not independent and that the packet receptions on adjacent wireless links are correlated. This finding contradicts the widely held link-independence assumption in the calculation of the core metric, i.e., the expected number of transmissions to the candidate forwarder set, in opportunistic routing (OR). The inappropriate assumption may cause serious estimation errors in the forwarder set selection, which further leads to underutilized diversity benefits or extra scheduling costs. We propose a novel link-correlation-aware OR scheme, which significantly improves the performance by exploiting the diverse low correlated forwarding links basis on various matrices such as link energy, no. of hops etc. We evaluate the design in ns2-network simulation tool by varying no. of nodes. Target of our work is to develop an algorithm to find better correlated links.

Keywords- OR, Cooperative Communication.

INTRODUCTION

Multi-hop wireless networks typically use routing techniques similar to those found in wired networks. A routing protocol chooses a path of nodes between the source and destination, and each packet is forwarded along the path through one node at a time. Cooperative diversity schemes proposed by the information theory community suggest an alternate approach that may yield higher throughput. Cooperative diversity takes advantage of broadcast transmission to send information through multiple relays concurrently [1]. The destination can then choose the best of many relayed signals, or combine information from multiple signals. These schemes require radios capable of simultaneous, synchronized repeating of the analog signal, or additional radio channels for each relay. Opportunistic routing (OR) takes advantage of the spatial diversity and broadcast nature of wireless networks to combat the time-varying links by involving multiple neighboring nodes (forwarding candidates) for each packet relay. This paper studies the properties, energy efficiency, capacity, throughput, protocol design and security issues

about OR in multihop wireless networks. First, different from TR (Traditional Routing), OR has its unique nature that for each packet transmission, any one of the forwarding candidates of the transmitter can become the actual forwarder. Thus, effective throughput can take place from a transmitter to any one of its forwarding candidates at any instant. However, for TR, throughput can only happen from a transmitter to a pre-defined next-hop node even if other neighboring nodes overhear the transmission. Therefore, the previous work on the throughput optimization in multi-radio multichannel systems based on TR cannot be directly applied to OR [2].

Second, multi-radio multi-channel capability raises challenging issues on radio-channel assignment for OR. In a single-radio single-channel system, OR naturally takes advantage of the redundant receptions on multiple neighboring nodes without consuming or sacrificing any extra channel resource. When a node is sending packets, all of its one-hop neighbors usually cannot send or receive other packets at the same time due to co-channel interference. That is, these one-hop neighbors have no other choices but listen to the transmission. However, in multi-radio/channel systems, the one-hop neighbors have two choices: 1) they can operate on the same channel as the transmitter to improve the diversity gain on the receiver side, then more effective traffic can flow out of the transmitter and the system throughput can be increased; or 2) they can operate on other orthogonal channels, thus have chances to transmit/receive packets to/from other nodes, which may result in more concurrent effective traffic flowing in the network and can also increase the system throughput. This can be considered as a trade-off between multiplexing and spatial diversity. Which choice the neighboring nodes should make is non-trivial. The radio-channel assignment for optimizing the end-to-end throughput in multi-radio multi-channel systems when OR is available deserves careful study.

Third, due to the broadcast nature of the wireless medium, one transmission may interfere with the neighboring links operated on the same channel [9]. Therefore, node's transmissions should be optimally scheduled in order to

maximize the throughput. Finally, even the radio-channel assignment and transmission scheduling are given, we still need to optimally (often dynamically) select forwarding candidates and assign relay priorities among them in order to maximize the end-to-end throughput. How to dynamically assign and schedule the forwarding priority among forwarding candidates has not been well studied in the existing literature. In summary, in order to maximize the end-to-end throughput of the multi-radio multi-channel network when OR is available, we should jointly address multiple issues: radio channel assignment, transmission scheduling, forwarding candidate selection, and forwarding priority scheduling. In this paper, we carry out a comprehensive study on these issues.

II RELATED WORK

A. Opportunistic Routing

Opportunistic routing exploits the broadcast nature and special diversity of the wireless medium by involving multiple one-hop neighbors for packet forwarding. The increase in packet forwarding reliability improves throughput and energy efficiency. Existing studies on OR mainly focus on protocol design. Some variants of opportunistic routing, such as ExOR and opportunistic any-path forwarding rely on the path cost information or global knowledge of the network to select candidates and prioritize them. In the least-cost opportunistic routing (LCOR) [3], depending on the cost definition, it may need to enumerate all the neighboring node combinations to find the best forwarding candidates, while in some common cases it only introduces linear searching. Some other variants of use the location information of nodes to define the candidate set and relay priority.

In GeRaF [8], the next-hop neighbors of the current forwarding node are divided into sets of priority regions with nodes closer to the destination having higher relay priorities. Similar to [3], the network layer specifies a set of nodes by defining a forwarding region in space that consists of the candidate nodes and the data link layer selects the first node available from that set to be the next hop node. [4] discussed three suppression strategies of contention-based forwarding to avoid packet duplication in mobile ad hoc networks. [5] revealed several important properties of the local behavior of OR, such as the maximum expected packet advancement (EPA) is an increasing and concave function of the number of forwarding candidates. [6] proposed a local metric expected one-hop throughput (EOT) to balance the medium time cost and expected packet advancement. Recent work combines OR with network coding to further improve the system throughput.

B. Capacity of Multi-hop Wireless Networks

The theoretical study on the capacity of multi-hop wireless networks can be classified into two directions. One is on the asymptotic bounds of the network capacity. These studies derive the capacity trend with regard to the size of a wireless network or with respect to the number of radios and channels. The other direction on wireless network capacity is to compute the exact performance bounds for a given network. Our work falls into this direction. Jain et

al proposed a framework to calculate the throughput bounds of traditional routing between a pair of nodes by adding wireless interference constraints into the maximum flow formulations. Zhai and Fang studied the path capacity of traditional routing in a multi-rate scenario. There has been recent work on capacity bound computation in multi-radio multi-channel networks. However, they are all based on the assumption of using traditional routing at the network layer, where one transmitter can only deliver traffic to one receiver. There is one work [6] addressing the end-to-end throughput of OR in multi-rate wireless networks, and it computes the throughput bound when opportunistic forwarding strategy is given at each node. This paper is based on our recent work on computing the end-to-end throughput bound of opportunistic routing in multi-radio multi-channel multi-hop wireless networks [7]. We advance the state-of-the-art by addressing the priority scheduling problem in the local opportunistic forwarding to satisfy the rate/traffic demand on each link. Our study is the first integrated work of radio-channel assignment, transmission scheduling, candidate selection and prioritization for OR in multi-radio multi-channel multi-hop wireless networks. Our analysis provides insights into the performance and behavior of OR in multi-radio multi-channel systems.

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