System Level Simulation of Relay Enhanced Cells

Prerequisites and Difficulties

28. Treffen der VDE/ITG-Fachgruppe 5.2.4 Mobilität in IP-basierten Netzen

Chair of Communication Networks

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Overview

- System Level Simulation
- Channel Modeling
- Relay Capable Protocol Stack
- Multi-hop Scheduling
- Roadmap to Open Source





System Level Simulation

- Discrete Event Driven Simulation:
 - Events occur at certain points in simulation time
 - => ex. traffic generator, ARQ timeout
 - Programming code is executed
 - => Can generate new events for now or later
- (Wireless) Network Simulators
 - Scenario: Position & mobility of nodes, obstacles, channel physics
 - Composition: Protocol stack within each node
 - Functionality: Code handling events
 - Helpers: Event queue, random number generators, statistical evaluation, ...
- + Detailed results
- Implementation effort
- Simulator runtime





onTimeout(PDUNr) pduCopy = q.copy(PDUNr); send(pduCopy); setTimeout(PDUNr, to); }



Channel Modeling

- Modeling signal to interference and noise ratio (SINR)
 - Noise N: fixed / bandwidth dependant
 - Signal strength S:
 - Path loss (distance / propagation factor)
 - Shadowing (obstacles or random model)
 - Fast fading (random model)
 - Interference: Calculated like S for every simultaneous transmission
 - TX / RX antenna gains: From geometry
 - Weight each segment of constant SINR with its duration



Segments of constant SINR

Channel Modeling cont.

- Different channel models for different node type pairs
 - Relay Node (RN) positions are subject to network planning
 - They are most likely positioned line of sight to Base Station (BS)
 - Low (fixed) path loss / low propagation factor
 - Low / no shading
 - Low / no fast fading
 - Directional antennas and beamforming can be used BS<->RN
 - BS<->User Terminal (UT), RN<->UT and UT<->UT channels are more unpredictable
 - Channel between RN/BS and other cell RN/BS is more unpredictable

=> Higher data rates for BS<->RN channel + lower error rate





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Functional Units (FUs):

- Goal: Rapid protocol implementation
- Perform subtask of the layer (Buffer, ARQ, MAC, segmentation, concatenation, CRC...)
- Are connected to form FU Network (FUN)
- Pass PDUs up and down the stack
- Can modify, buffer, drop or inject new PDUs
- Flow control decides when to pass PDUs
 - isAccepting: Can I pass the PDU down?
 - wakeup: My state has changed, I can accept now







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4G Wireless



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4G Wireless





Resource Partitioning:

- 1st hop BS<->RN: RN is scheduled like normal (very busy) UT
- How to split resources between BS and RN operating as BS?
- Can we adjust it dynamically?
- Multiple RNs: Further partitioning vs. spatial reuse



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Scheduling

- Downlink (DL) and uplink (UL) scheduling
- Done by BS / RN acting as BS
- Scheduler creates UL and DL schedule (map) and broadcasts it
- RN needs more resources in BS schedule



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Scheduling cont.

Relay Node FUN:

- Two FUNs: 1 for UT, 1 for BS task
- TaskDispatcher switches between tasks
- PDUs need to be buffered
- UT task
 - Receive map from BS
 - Send PDUs in assigned resource
 - Turn on receiver as indicated by map
- BS task
 - Schedule resources for UTs
 - Estimate channel to/from each UT
 - Broadcast map
- Problem: BS scheduling 1st hop does not know channel on 2nd hop
- => Possible buffer overflow in RN



Scheduling cont.

What is the impact of this problem?

- Resources wasted on 1st hop
- High buffer levels at RN cause high delays
- Maximal possible throughput is underestimated
- Spectral efficiency is underestimated

Possible solutions:

- Uplink: RN knows how much resources it gets from BS, can schedule its UTs accordingly
- Dynamic resource partitioning: Match 1st and 2nd hop resources / capacities
- Signaling: Inform BS about channel at 2nd hop
- Flow control:
 - Use some sliding window mechanism (ex. ARQ)
 - XON / XOFF
- \Rightarrow Open research topic



Roadmap to Open Source



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Thank you for your attention!

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