

UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA

QUALITY OF SERVICE PROVISIONING SCHEME FOR REAL-TIME APPLICATIONS IN IEEE 802.11 WIRELESS LOCAL AREA NETWORK

ROGER NG CHENG YONG.

FK 2006 38



QUALITY OF SERVICE PROVISIONING SCHEME FOR REAL-TIME APPLICATIONS IN IEEE 802.11 WIRELESS LOCAL AREA NETWORK

By

ROGER NG CHENG YONG

Thesis Submitted to the School of Graduate Studies, Universiti Putra Malaysia, in Fulfilment of the Requirement for Degree of Master of Science

February 2006



To my Family and Friends



Abstract of thesis presented to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia in fulfilment of the requirement for the degree of Master of Science

QUALITY OF SERVICE PROVISIONING SCHEME FOR REAL-TIME APPLICATIONS IN IEEE 802.11 WIRELESS LOCAL AREA NETWORK

By

ROGER NG CHENG YONG

February 2006

Chairman: Associate Professor Sabira Khatun, PhD

Faculty: Engineering

This thesis presents a novel quality of service (QoS) provisioning scheme for realtime applications in IEEE 802.11e wireless local area networks (WLAN). The emerging 802.11e standard is tackling the exploding volume of traffic in WLANs with a long -term solution based on QoS-architectures. QoS delivers predictability and consistency into existing variability of best-effort delivery system offered in internet protocol (IP) and IEEE 802.11 wireless networks.

Service differentiation in WLAN networks is achieved by means of assigning packets (from the network layer) to different access categories (AC), a set of fixed medium access control (MAC) level parameters that defines the priority echelon for each AC. Thus real-time applications are assigned higher priority ACs to ensure better service and to ensure that the delay constraints of these applications are promptly dealt with.

An algorithm called Slide and Translate (SNT) is proposed for IEEE 802.11 WLANs. The SNT adapts contention parameters of individual ACs based on the



network load in a basic service set (BSS). SNT is derived from the observations of the success and failures of previously proposed QoS provisioning schemes. The SNT adapts the backoff interval, minimum contention window (CW_{min}) and contention offset (CW_{offset}) to ensure the QoS constraints for the different ACs are dealt with.

To further understand the SNT, a simple mathematical analysis is presented on the inter-AC differentiation characteristics; subsequently, through simulation it is shown that SNT is able to maintain high medium utilisation over a wide range of offered loads while providing a high degree of isolation (in terms of throughput, delay and frame loss) to high priority traffic.

Further to this, an extension to the SNT called SNT-AC is proposed in order to achieve efficient end-to-end resource provisioning. SNT-AC uses an admission control algorithm to restrict flows in and out of the BSS. The admission controller resides in the IP layer and makes decision based on the MAC level feedback. The simulation results indicate that the close coupling QoS coordination can ensure both bandwidth and latency to admitted flows by controlling the effective offered load into the BSS. This guarantees high priority ACs protection against overwhelming traffic in a WLAN.

Finally a brief discussion on future directions of WLANs and hardware implementation issues conclude the thesis.



Abstrak tesis yang dikemukakan kepada Senat Universiti Putra Malaysia sebagai memenuhi keperluan untuk ijazah Master Sains

SKEMA MEMPROVISI KUALITI PERKHIDMATAN UNTUK APLIKASI MASA-NYATA DALAM RANGKAIAN TEMPATAN TANPA WAYAR BERASASKAN PIAWAIAN IEEE 802.11

Oleh

ROGER NG CHENG YONG

Februari 2005

Pengerusi: Profesor Madya Sabira Khatun, PhD

Fakulti: Kejuruteraan

Tesis ini mengutarakan satu skema baru yang berupaya memperuntukkan kualiti perkhidmatan untuk aplikasi masa nyata dalam rangkaian wireless tempatan. Draf piawaian 802.11e daripada IEEE adalah sebahagian hasil daripada penyelidikan yang bertujuan menampung keperluan trafik yang kian meruncing. Kualiti perkhidmatan memberikan jaminan dan konistensi kepada rangkaian yang sedia ada seperti rangkaian berasaskan Internet Protocol (IP) dan rangkaian tempatan tanpa wayar (WLAN) berasaskan piawaian IEEE 802.11.

Untuk membezakan kualiti perkhidmatan, WLAN membahagikan paket-paket kepada kelas yang dinamakan "access category" (AC). Setiap AC mempunyai parameter yang tersendiri yang digunakan untuk memperoleh servis daripada rangkaian. Untuk aplikasi atau perisian yang memerlukan perkhidmatan masa-nyata, ia perlu memastikan paket-paket di berikan kualiti perkhidmatan yang tertinggi.

Bagi tujuan memperuntukkan kualiti perkhidmatan yang sesuai, sebuah skema yang



dinamakan "slide and translate" di reka untuk mengagihkan lebar jalur kepada aplikasi atau perisian mengikut keperluan individu. Skema ini adalah hasil daripada kejayaan dan juga kegagalan beberapa skema yang pernah di cadangkan oleh para penyelidik sebelum ini. Skema SNT menyesuaikan parameter setiap AC seperti "minimum contention window (CW)", "contention offset (CWoffset) bagi tujuan memberikan kualiti perkhidmatan yang sesuai.

Untuk lebih memahami prinsip operasi SNT, satu analisis matematik di buat untuk menunjukkan keupayaan skema ini mengekalkan kualiti perkhidmatan dalam sesebuah WLAN. Melalui kaedah simulasi, penilaian berdasarkan "throughput", "delay" and "frame loss" di buat bedasarkan prestasi setiap AC.

Lanjutan daripada skema SNT, sebuah lagi skema yang di namakan SNT-AC diperkenalkan. SNT-AC menggunakan kawalan kemasukan untuk memastikan setiap aplikasi yang dibenarkan menggunakan rangkaian, akan medapatkan kualiti perkhidmatan yang diperlukan.

Akhirnya, tesis ini membincangkan hala tuju WLAN dan peranannya dalam rangkaian masa depan, selain itu satu perbincangan mengenai mereka bentuk perkakasan untuk tujuan kualit perkhidmatan juga di masukkan.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

First and foremost I would like to thank Dr. Sabira Khatun for giving me the opportunity to work with her and the fantastic team of researchers at the wireless laboratory. The past two years has been extremely challenging yet no less fruitful. I would further thank her for the countless hours of discussion and constructive advice on many aspects of the research and the thesis.

Additionally, no less amount of gratitude goes to Professor Borhannudin Md. Ali and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Khazani for their input and also their ideas on contemporary research in the area of networking. Specifically, the many presentations (probably half a dozen) over the past two years has somewhat aligned my research focus in a more relevant scope.

A big thank you goes to Dr. Bryan, Dr. David and Dr. Y.F Tan for their input on the simulation, mathematical analysis and insights. Their ideas really helped me through the difficult parts of this research.

Finally, another round of thank you go to my lab mates and friends, Loh, Yong, Sadat, Zura, and all the office staff in the faculty as well as the graduate school.



I certify that an Examination Committee has met on 22nd February 2006 to conduct the final examination of Roger Ng Cheng Yong on his Master of Science thesis entitled "Quality of Service Provisioning Scheme for Real-Time Applications in IEEE 802.11 Wireless Local Area Network" in accordance with Universiti Pertanian Malaysia (Higher Degree) Act 1980 and Universiti Pertanian Malaysia (Higher Degree) Regulations 1981. The Committee recommends that the candidate be awarded the relevant degree. Members of the Examination Committee are as follows:

Abdul Rahman Ramli, PhD

Associate Professor Faculty of Engineering Universiti Putra Malaysia (Chairman)

Elsadig Ahmed Mohamed Babiker, PhD Lecturer Faculty of Engineering Universiti Putra Malaysia (Internal Examiner)

Syed Javaid Iqbal, PhD Lecturer Faculty of Engineering Universiti Putra Malaysia (Internal Examiner)

Dato' Ir. Mashkuri Yaacob, PhD Professor Faculty of Computer Science Universiti Malaya (External Examiner)

HASANAH OHD. GHAZALI, PhD Professor/Deputy Dean School of Graduate Studies Universiti Putra Malaysia

Date: 18 MAY 2006



This thesis submitted to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia and has been accepted as fulfilment of the requirement for the degree of Master of Engineering. The members of the Supervisory Committee are as follows:

Sabira Khatun, PhD

Lecturer Faculty of Engineering Universiti Putra Malaysia (Chairman)

Borhannudin Mohd. Ali, PhD

Professor Faculty of Engineering Universiti Putra Malaysia (Member)

Mohamad Khazani Abdullah, PhD

Associate Professor Faculty of Engineering Universiti Putra Malaysia (Member)

-e-1

AINI IDERIS, PhD Professor/Dean School of Graduate Studies Universiti Putra Malaysia

Date: 0 8 JUN 2006



DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the thesis is based on my original work except for quotations and citations, which have been duly acknowledged. I also declare that it has not been previously or concurrently submitted for any other degree at UPM or other institutions.

ROGER NG CHENG YONG

Date: 22 February 2006



TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
DEDICATION	ii
ABSTRACT	iii
ABSTRAK	v
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	vii
APPROVAL	viii
DECLARATION	Х
LIST OF TABLES	xi
LIST OF FIGURES	xii
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS/GLOSSARY OF TERMS	XV

CHAPTER

1

2

INTRODUCTION	23
1.1 Background	
1.2 Scope	25
1.3 Motivation	26
1.4 Research aim and objectives	29
1.5 Contributions	30
1.6 Thesis outline	31
RESEARCH BACKGROUND	34
2.1 Wireless LANs	
2.1.1 Introduction to WLAN technology and IEEE 802.11	37
2.1.2 WLAN mode of operation	39
2.1.3 Evolution of high rate WLANs	41
2.1.4 Distributed coordination function (DCF)	43
2.1.5 Point coordination function (PCF)	47
2.1.6 Next generation networks	50
2.2 Network QoS	52
2.3 QoS parameters	53
2.3.1 Bandwidth	54
2.3.2 Latency	55
2.3.3 Delay and jitter	55
2.3.4 Reliability	56
2.4 Integrated services	56
2.4.1 IntServ service classes	58
2.5 Differentiated services	62
2.5.1 DiffServ traffic classes	63
2.6 QoS for voice traffic	67
2.7 QoS in IEEE 802.11 WLANs	69
2.7.1 Dengs' Scheme	71



2.7.2 EDCF Scheme	75
2.7.3 AEDCF Scheme	79
2.7.4 DiffServ enabled MAC	82
2.7.5 TCMA Scheme	84
2.7.6 Aads' Scheme	86
2.8 Summary of QoS provisioning in IEEE 802.11 WLAN	91
2.9 Chapter summary	92
MODELS AND METHODS	94
3.1 SNT algorithm	94
3.2 Mathematical analysis	103
3.3 Tuning the SNT algorithm	107
3.4 Simulation setup	108
3.5 Summary	113
EVALUATION OF QoS PROVISIONING SCHEMES	
IN IEEE 802.11 WLAN	114
4.1 Introduction	114
4.2 Experiments	
4.2.1 Experiment 1: Medium utilisation	115
4.2.2 Experiment 2: Per-flow differentiation	121
4.2.3 Experiment 3: Loss ratio	129
4.2.4 Experiment 4: Percentage loss per AC	134
4.2.5 Experiment 5: Delay	138
4.3 Summary	146
SLIDE AND TRANSLATE WITH ADMISSION	
CONTROL FOR END-TO-END QoS	
GUARANTEES	148
5.1 Motivation	149
5.1.1 Related work	153
5.2 SNT-AC architecture	155
5.3 Simulation environment	159
5.3.1 Traffic	160
5.4 Simulation results	
5.4.1 Experiment 1: Successfully completed voice calls	162
5.4.2 Experiment 2: Throughput-time characteristic	165
5.4.3 Experiment 3: Delay distribution and latency	167
5.4.4 Experiment 4: TCP traffic	172
5.5 Summary	175



6	CONCLUSION AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS	177
REFER	ENCES	181
BIODA	TA OF THE AUTHOR	191



LIST OF TABLES

Table		Page
2.1	Comparison of infrastructure and ad-hoc mode of operation.	41
2.2	Summary of IntServ service classes and their respective characteristic.	61
2.3	Summary of DiffServ service classes and their respective characteristic.	66
2.4	Parameters used to calculate minimum bandwidth for VoIP packets.	68
2.5	QoS for voice traffic on wired and wireless networks.	69
2.6	Priorities using a combination of IFS and backoff range.	72
2.7	Comparison of the advantages and disadvantages of the various QoS provisioning schemes for IEEE 802.11 MAC.	90
3.1	Physical and MAC layer parameters used in simulation.	109
3.2	Normalised load calculated for 5 to 50 nodes in a single BSS.	110
3.3	Traffic parameters used in simulation.	112
5.1	Timeline of flows entering BSS.	163
5.2	Comparison for SNT-AC, SNT and AEDCF (flow arrival according to Table 5.1).	o 163
5.3	Comparison for SNT-AC, SNT and AEDCF using completely random sessions trigger.	n voice 164
5.4	Results for TCP traffic using EDCF, SNT, SNT-AC and AEDCF.	175



LIST OF FIGURES

Figure		Page
2.1	The OSI reference model	38
2.2	IEEE 802.11 MAC layer	39
2.3	Access points in PCF mode connected to a switched backbone to extend wireless coverage.	40
2.4	Growth in random backoff range with number of retries (Adapted from Benoit 2001).	46
2.5	Next generation networks with IP as the common denominator.	51
2.6	(a) Queue structure in EDCF based station (b) EDCF mechanism (c) A TxOP is defined by a starting time plus a maximum duration, note that any 802.11e frame exchange will not take longer than the TxOPlimit.	78
2.7	Simple classification of QoS mechanisms for 802.11 WLANs.	91
3.1	(a) Typical range of CW for AC[3], AC[2] and AC[1] using SNT during low load conditions (b) Typical range of CW for AC[3], AC[2] and AC[1] using SNT during high load conditions.	96
3.2	Measured bandwidth over time.	99
3.3	Average load (EWMA) and instantaneous load using (α =0.9).	100
3.4	Structure of a QoS Advertisement frame.	100
3.5	(a) Frame transmission procedure for SNT stations (b) Frame transmission procedure for SNT AP.	101
3.6	Flowchart for transmitting a frame in the SNT algorithm.	102
3.7	Two random variables on separate axis, each representing an AC.	105
3.8	(a) — (d) clockwise: Scenario 1, fixed with 5 stations. Adding flows to each station increases the load in the BSS. (e) — (h) clockwise:	



	Scenario 2, increasing number of stations to increase BSS load. Each flow generates a fixed amount of load.	111
4.1	 (a) Medium utilisation for 3 algorithms under scenario 1 for 5 stations. (b) Medium utilisation for 3 algorithms under scenario 1 for 15 stations. (c) Medium utilisation for 3 algorithms under scenario 1 for 25 stations. (d) Channel utilisation for 3 algorithms under scenario 1 for 40 stations (e) Medium utilization gain over EDCF for SNT and AEDCF for increasing number of stations. 	118 120
4.2	(a) Flow throughput using SNT's AC[3] (b) Flow throughput using SNT's AC[2] (c) Flow Throughput using SNT's AC[1].	123
4.3	(a) Flow throughput for 7 flows (in bps) from randomly selected stations using the SNT algorithm. Lines are used to denote the trend, while the points show the average values. (b) Flow throughput for 7 randomly selected flows using EDCF (c) Flow throughput for 7 randomly selected flows using AEDCF.	5 127 128
4.4	(a) Loss ratio for 8 stations. (b) Loss ratio for 16 stations (c) Loss ratio for 24 stations (d) Loss ratio for 32 stations.	132
4.5	 (a) Loss ratio for SNT at 60% load (b) Loss ratio for EDCF at 60% load (c) Loss ratio for SNT at 90% load (d) Loss ratio for EDCF at 90% load (e) Loss ratio for SNT at 120% load (f) Loss ratio for EDCF at 120% load 	135
4.6	 (a) Loss ratio for SNT at 60% load (b) Loss ratio for AEDCF at 60% load (c) Loss ratio for SNT at 90% load (d) Loss ratio for AEDCF at 90% load. (e) Loss ratio for SNT at 120% load (f) Loss ratio for AEDCF at 120% load. 	136
4.7	(a) top to bottom: CDF access delay for 10 stations using EDCF, SNT and AEDCF (b) top to bottom: CDF access delay for 25 stations using EDCF, SNT and AEDCF (c) top to bottom: CDF access delay for 35 stations using EDCF, SNT and AEDCF (d) top to bottom: CDF access delay for 60 stations using EDCF, SNT and AEDCF.	140
5.1	(a) Total uplink throughput for EDCF without admission control (b) Per AC throughput for EDCF without admission control.	152



5.2	(a) Establishing a flow in the SNT-AC scheme (b) Pseudocode for simple admission controller.	157
5.3	(a)Network topology used for evaluating end-to-end QoS (b) Ethereal capture for a video stream (c) Trace file, column one denotes trigger time and column two denotes packet size (d) Flow throughputs without admission control (e) Flow throughputs with admission control.	159
5.4	(a) Throughputs with admission control (b) Throughputs without admission control.	166
5.5	(a) CDF of access delay using SNT without AC 100% load (b): CDF of access delay using SNT-AC 100% load .	168
5.6	Channel utilisation characteristic for SNT-AC and SNT.	169
5.7	Latency for a single video stream with admission control. (b) Latency for a single video stream without admission control.	171
5.7	Network topology for Experiment 4. Each sender communicates with one receiver through a wired link.	only 174



LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS/GLOSSARY OF TERMS

AC	Access Category		
ACK	Acknowledgement		
AEDCF	Adaptive Enhanced Distributed Coordination Function		
AIFS	Arbitration Inter Frame Space (measured in us)		
ANSI	American National Standards Institute		
AP	Access Point		
ARQ	Automatic Repeat Request		
ATM	Asynchronous Transfer Mode		
BE	Best Effort		
BER	Bit Error Ratio		
BI	Backoff Interval		
BSS	Basic Service Set		
BSSID	Basic Service Set Identification		
CA	Collision Avoidance		
CBR	Constant Bit Rate		
CCA	Clear Channel Assessment		
ССК	Complementary Code Keying		
CCDF	Complementary Cumulative Distribution Function		
CDF	Cumulative Distribution Function, synonymous to CCDF		
CFB	Contention Free Burst		
CFP	Contention Free Period		



CL	Controlled Load (802.1D)		
СР	Contention Period		
CRC	Cyclic Redundancy Check		
CSMA	Carrier Sense Multiple Access		
CTS	Clear To Send		
CW	Contention Window		
CW_{max}	Maximum Contention Window		
CW_{min}	Minimum Contention Window		
DCC	Dynamic contention control		
DCF	Distributed Coordination Function		
DIFS	Distributed Coordination Function Interframe Space		
DL	Downlink		
DLC	Data Link Control		
DS	Distribution System		
DSSS	Direct Sequence Spread Spectrum		
DTIM	Delivery Traffic Indication Message		
EDCF	Enhanced Distributed Coordination Function		
EIFS	Extended Interframe Space		
EIRP	Equivalent Isotropically Radiated Power		
ESS	Extended Service Set		
ETSI	European Telecommunications Standards Institute		
FCC	Federal Communication Commission – U.S		
FHSS	Frequency Hopping Spread Spectrum		



1000603767

- FTP File Transfer Protocol
- HCF Hybrid Coordination Function
- HTTP Hypertext Transfer Protocol
- IAPP Inter AP Protocol
- IBSS Independent Basic Service Set Ad hoc
- IEEE Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers- USA.
- IFS Interframe Space
- IP Internet Protocol
- ISM Industrial, Science, Medical (a frequency band)
- ISO International Organization for Standardization
- ITU International Telecommunications Union
- LAN Local Area Network
- LLC Logical Link Control
- MAC Medium Access Control
- MLME MAC Layer Management Entity
- MPDU MAC Protocol Data Unit
- MPEG Moving Pictures Expert Group
- MSDU MAC Service Data Unit
- NAV Network Allocation Vector
- NC Network Control
- OFDM Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplexing
- OSI Open System Interconnection
- PC Point Coordinator

- PCF Point Coordination Function
- PDU Protocol Data Unit
- PER Packet Error Ratio
- PF Persistence Factor
- PHY Physical Layer mode, coding and modulation scheme
- PIFS Point Coordination Function Interframe Space
- PLCP Physical Layer Convergence Protocol
- PLME PHY Layer Management Entity
- PMD Physical Medium Dependent
- PPDU Physical (layer) Protocol Data Unit
- PSDU PHY Service Data Unit QAM Quaternary Amplitude Modulation
- QoS Quality of Service
- QPSK Quaternary Phase Shift Keying
- QSTA QoS Station
- RTS Request to Send
- RSVP Resource Reservation Protocol
- RESV Reservation message
- RSpec Reservation specification for RSVP
- SAP Service Access Point
- SDU Service Data Unit
- SFDUR Superframe Duration
- SIFS Short Interframe Space
- SNT Slide and Translate



Station Service SS Station STA Target Beacon Transmission Time TBTT Transport Control Protocol TCP Traffic Identifier TID TS Traffic Stream Traffic Specification **TSPEC** Transmission Opportunity TXOP VBR Variable Bit Rate Voice over Internet Protocol VoIP Wired Equivalent Privacy WEP Wireless Fidelity (802.11 Annex B 1997) Wi-Fi Wide Sense Stationary WSS Wireless STA WSTA



XCL	Extended Controlled Load (802.1D)
XCP	Extended Contention Period
XCRC	Extranneous Cyclic Redundancy Check
CSMA	Carrier Sense Multiple Access
CTS	Clear To Send
CW	Contention Window
CW _{max}	Maximum Contention Window
CW_{min}	Minimum Contention Window
DCC	Dynamic contention control
DCF	Distributed Coordination Function
DIFS	Distributed Coordination Function Interframe Space
DL	Downlink
DLC	Data Link Control
DS	Distribution System
DSSS	Direct Sequence Spread Spectrum
DTIM	Delivery Traffic Indication Message
EDCF	Enhanced Distributed Coordination Function
EIFS	Extended Interframe Space
EIRP	Equivalent Isotropically Radiated Power
ESS	Extended Service Set
ETSI	European Telecommunications Standards Institute
FCC	Federal Communication Commission – U.S
FHSS	Frequency Hopping Spread Spectrum



xFTP	X version of File Transfer Protocol		
x-HCF	Extended Hybrid Coordination Function		
xHTTP	Extended Hypertext Transfer Protocol		
x-IAPP	extendedInter AP Protocol		
IBSS	Independent Basic Service Set – Ad hoc		
IEEE	Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers- USA.		
IFS	Interframe Space		
IP	Internet Protocol		
ISM	Industrial, Science, Medical (a frequency band)		
ISO	International Organization for Standardization		
ITU	International Telecommunications Union		
LAN	Local Area Network		
LLC	Logical Link Control		
MAC	Medium Access Control		
MLME	MAC Layer Management Entity		
MPDU	MAC Protocol Data Unit		
MPEG	Moving Pictures Expert Group		
MSDU	MAC Service Data Unit		
NAV	Network Allocation Vector		
NC	Network Control		
OFDM	Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplexing		
OSI	Open System Interconnection		
PC	Point Coordinator		

