Vehicle safety has always been a major concern for automotive engineers. Information carried by a vehicle can be forwarded to another vehicle using the IEEE 802.11p standard protocol, providing a driver or autonomous vehicle with information regarding speed and direction of the approaching vehicle. With the focus on safety, this paper seeks to determine the performance of a vehicular ad hoc network (VANET) under varying conditions and constraints. This paper seeks to understand the effect on packet delivery and end to end delay with respect to the varying number and distances of mobile nodes.
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<td>Ad hoc On-Demand Distance Vector</td>
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1 Introduction

The world is currently evolving into a where there are an increasing number of devices connecting to internet. By including networking technology into everyday objects we are effectively creating the “internet of things”.

Recently there has been experimentation into communication between vehicles using a vehicle ad-hoc network (VANET). Allowing cars to communicate between each other has many practical applications, for example one could transmit the velocity of one vehicle, to the vehicle behind, allowing the vehicle to match the velocity without driver interaction. [1] As automobiles are becoming ever increasingly automated and communicating between vehicles is soon to be commonplace.

The real-time requirements of the vehicular ad-hoc network tend to be more important when compared to a mobile ad-hoc network (MANET). Knowing relatively accurate average characteristics of a VANET is very important considering that the network involves humans. If communication fails to be established or a packet arrives too late someone is potentially at risk of getting seriously injured.

To understand some of the basic performance of a VANET, this paper plans to run some basic simulations using the Network Simulator version 2.35 (NS-2) and generate as close as possible approximations to real world traffic simulations.

2 Vehicular Ad-hoc Network (VANET) Architecture

Vehicular ad-hoc networks are created on the continuously configure themselves without any infrastructure. A VANET completes this using specific routing protocols such as Ad-hoc on-Demand Distance Vectoring (AODV) and Destination Sequence Distance Vector (DSDV). Each node must receive and send traffic as the node is effectively a router.

In general VANET nodes move along similar paths at high velocities which makes them different from mobile ad hoc networks which do not have the same requirements. Vehicles also tend to group into clusters while travelling along the same path [2] creating a series of disconnected clusters along a given path. Between the vehicles there tends to be multiple channels of communication generating large background traffic. The architecture of 802.11p is summarized in Figure 1.
Both IEEE 1609 and IEEE 802.11p are fairly new standards. IEEE 1609 outlines the upper layer protocol stack, and IEEE 802.11p defines the physical and lower MAC layer.

2.1 Medium Access Control Layer Protocols IEEE 802.11
The Medium Access Control (MAC) Layer protocol is responsible for controlling the access to channel and address making it possible for the wireless nodes to communicate. Because VANET nodes move at relatively high velocities, amendments to the 802.11 protocol had to be made.

The 802.11 standard decreased the total bandwidth from 20MHz down to 10 MHz which doubles the time a symbol takes to transmit. The increased transmission time reduces errors caused by the varying channel characteristics that exist in different physical environments (Grafling, Mahonen, & Riihijarvi, 2010). The 802.11p standard also dedicates the band from 5.850 to 5.925 GHz for use specifically for use with VANETs.
While a VANET and MANET are very similar Figure 1 tries to highlight the differences. The VANET nodes do not move in random and follows strict paths guided by roads, this contrasts with MANETS whose nodes can follow any path.

2.2 Ad-hoc on-Demand Distance Vectoring
The Ad-hoc on-Demand Distance Vectoring (AODV) is a type of routing protocol commonly used in VANET and MANETs. A routing protocol decides the way of data exchange between different communication entities. The protocol provides services of establishing the route, forwarding, error detection, and error recovery and flow control. Providing optimal paths between communication nodes via minimum overhead is the main task of routing protocol.

The high mobility in a VANET makes it hard to design a dedicated VANET protocol. The issues include computing and maintaining routing paths between vehicles. AODV protocol here is responsible for discovering, establishing, recovering and maintaining routing paths. AODV uses four types of control message. The messages are Route Request (RREQ), Route Reply (RREP), Route Acknowledgment (RREP-ACK) and Route Error (RERR) messages. Every communication nodes maintains a sequence number which is used by other nodes to determine the freshness of the data contained from the originating node. When originator needs to route to some certain nodes. AODV protocol starts discovery process. Figure 3 (a) shows the source broadcasts RREQ signal to all the other nodes. Eventually, the RREQ will arrive at destination node that routes back to source using an optimal path.
2.3 Scope
There is a lot of research into application of VANETs. Particularly with respect to automation but most of the research is only just beginning to break into industry. Given the many different areas that we could measure real time performance, we plan to focus mainly characterizing the behavior of the IEEE 802.11p and AODV protocol.

3 Tools
3.1 The Network Simulator 2
The Network Simulator version 2.35 (NS-2) is an open source tool used for running event-driven network simulations. [5]. Using the tool the user can generate a set of TCL scripts to issue command to the NS2 simulator to specify when to initiate connections between which specific nodes. The designer can specify which statistics are of interest to the simulation scenario. The simulator also has lots of external support from researchers and other companies striving to make the simulator better

3.2 The Network Animator
The Network Animator (NAM) is a tool for visualizing the dataflow and movement of nodes in a network. The tool was used to visually inspect any concerns that may be of interest during our simulation.
3.3 Tracegraph

Tracegraph is a third party tool developed by Jaroslaw Malek, used for parsing through and extracting information from trace files output by NS-2 [6]. Using tracegraph the designer can quickly view certain characteristics of their network such as end-to-end delay (E2E) delay. Figure 4: Screenshot of Tracegraph shows a screen shot of the tracegraph GUI.

Tracegraph provided us the ability to quickly analyze a number of different statistics. We could also view the data generated by our simulations many different ways, Figure 4: Screenshot of Tracegraph above the shows a histogram of E2E delays for one of our simulations.

3.4 Xgraph

Xgraph is part of ns-all-in-one package, it is a plotting program which can be used to create graphic representation of an NS-2 simulation result. You can create an output file from your simulation.tcl script, which can be used as data sets for Xgraph. Below is a sample screenshot of an Xgraph plot.
4 Design of the project

Network simulation version 2.35 (NS-2) is used to simulate VANET model. Ns provides substantial support for simulation of TCP, routing, and multicast protocols over wired and wireless networks. We developed our TCL simulation scripts based on NS-2 tutorial.

The figure below shows the design of our VANET project,

We first tried to generate mobility file using a traffic simulator called Simulation of Urban Mobility (SUMO) which would allow us to generate more accurate traffic scenarios. However, SUMO outputs a large area with many different nodes which are all random. The large connection files made it difficult to write individual connections for all the nodes for the
scenarios we wished to simulate and we left what we had accomplished in mass simulation for future work.

To generate random background network traffic, we used the CBR traffic generator with UDP Segments. The background communication traffic will more closely resemble the actual background communication that is to be expected of a real world VANET network.

FTP network traffic using TCP is applied along the nodes that we wish to monitor. The simulation TCL file is responsible for generating the trace and NAM files. The NAM files are used to give visual feedback for node movement and node communication. The trace file is required to analyze packet delay. We used Xgraph and TraceGraph to quickly analyze and manually extract useful data.

5 Simulation Results

5.1 Scenario 1: Varying Highway Network Traffic

The scenario models a set of 30 cars each driving down a highway at a speed of 100 Km per hour. In each of our simulations we increased background traffic by adding in additional constant bit rate vehicle to vehicle (V2V) connections. The number of V2V background connections varied from 1 to 15 connections. Figure 7 shows a snapshot of the scenario in time.

![Nam Snapshot of Scenario 1](image)

We chose to initiate a connection from node 0 to node 9. Node 0 was offset from the group of Nodes so that we could verify that the AODV protocol was actually routing in between the nodes, and not connecting directly to node 9.
Figure 8 shows the communication delay between node 0 and node 9 increases as the number of background connections increase. This is largely because VANET uses cars as mobile nodes to create mobile network. In this case, data from node 0 has to go through all the nodes between source and destination, and eventually to node 9. The background traffic would delay the communication between node 0 and node 9.

Figure 9 shows that the transmit bit rate decreases when the number of background connections increase. This is largely due to the background communication between intermediate nodes. The bandwidth has been consumed not only by node 0 and node 9, but
also those intermediate nodes. The packets loss is very small because of TCP is used between node 0 and 9.

5.2 Scenario 2: Varying Highway Inter Distances

Wireless communication distance is an important performance metric with respect to wireless communication. As the distance between cars varies we wanted to understand the effect that the additional distance may have on throughput. Figure 10 shows a single test case where we tested the performance where each car was placed 50m apart from each other.

We increased the inter vehicle distance from 10m to 50m between vehicles and measured the average delay in between vehicles. The results of average delay vs distance and average throughput vs distance were plotted in the Figure 11 and Figure 12.
Figure 11 shows the communication delay increases when the distance between node to node increases. This is largely because the propagation delay increases when the distance between source and destination increases.

In wireless network, bit/s/Hz/area unit is used to measure throughput. In this case, the car to car distance increases results an increase in area. Hence, a decrement of transmit throughput is observed.
5.3 Scenario 3: Sudden Four Way Stop

Scenario 3 models a set of ten cars run into a four way stop at 40 km/h. In each of our simulations we increased background traffic by adding in additional constant bit rate vehicle to vehicle (V2V) connections. The number of V2V background connections varied from 1 to 6 connections. Figure 13 shows a snapshot of the scenario in time.

When the node 9 approaches node 8 which stays still, node 8 sends information to node 9 and tells node 9 to prepare to stop.
Figure 14 shows the communication delay between node 9 and node 8 when the number of background connections varied from 1 to 6. The average delay increases as the number of background connections increase. This is because the bandwidth is been consumed by other nodes. The delay analysis is very crucial to VANET system and the automated driving system in the future.

6 Future Work

Simulation of VANETs still have a long ways before we can quickly generate real world scenarios. We envision that it would not be too long to implement a basic method by which a designer could download a map from Open Street Maps and quickly utilize a vehicle traffic generator to create more realistic vehicle movements.

NS2’s implementation of wireless connectivity is also a little naïve. One would essentially wish to implement an enhancement to NS2’s model to broadcast to other nodes and connect to each node as they move into physical ranges.

6.1 Simulation of Urban Mobility

The Simulation of Urban Mobility (SUMO) tool allows for us to rapidly generate many different real world topologies that can be imported into the network simulator. We implemented a script that could take a map downloaded from Open Street Maps and generate a traffic flow usable in NS2 which is included in the Appendix.
Below are some quick topologies that were generated to test SUMO’s ability to interface with NS-2.

Figure 15 and Figure 16 show a vehicle traffic simulation being executed around at Simon Fraser and University and Granville Street in British Columbia. Each simulation has 100 cars. The maps were generated for SUMO by downloading maps from openstreetmap.org and the downloaded maps were then imported into SUMO.

6.2 Distance based vehicle connection initiation
Initially we tried to simulate nodes connecting to each other with the assumption that if a node was out of range, it would try to connect when the node moved within range. Eventually after research we found that NS2 has not implemented that functionality and the designer needs to initiate the connection knowing where the cars are at all points in time.

Ideally we would like to see as cars move within range, a connection is initiated and constant bit rate data begins to be exchanged. We sought to try and resolve this issue by creating a python script that browses through a mobility file which tries to automate the process of connection initiation. And the result of the script that we began to implement is shown in Figure 17.
Figure 17 shows the initial implementation. The radio distance was set to 30 m. Using a test script we could see that as node_(6) moved within range of node_(4) we could output a script to automatically have the two nodes to connect. Unfortunately we were getting mixed results as some nodes that were already connected would later try to reconnect again which made using this script for our project unrealizable. We included the work we accomplished in the Appendix for future work.

7 Conclusion
In this VANET performance and safety analysis, ns2 is used along with tracegraph to simulate AODV routing protocol with realistic mobility model for VANET. Graphs are plotted using Excel for evaluation. The performance is analyzed for up to 30 nodes with respect to various parameters like car to car distance and number of background connections.

In the future, higher number of nodes can be simulated and analyzed. SUMO could be a potential tool to generate realistic mobility files. It would be interesting to see how ADOV performs when in high node density network.
8 References


Appendix A

9.1 Top level script

# simulation.tcl
#
# This script reads a mobility.tcl script and networkTraffic.tcl
# to generate node movement and traffic
#
# Author: Jeremy Borys
# Date: April 12, 2015
#
# Define options
set val(chan)           Channel/WirelessChannel    ;# channel type
set val(prop)           Propagation/TwoRayGround   ;# radio-propagation model
set val(netif)          Phy/WirelessPhy            ;# network interface type
set val(mac)            Mac/802_11                 ;# MAC type
set val(ifq)            Queue/DropTail/PriQueue    ;# interface queue type
set val(ll)             LL                         ;# link layer type
set val(ant)            Antenna/OmniAntenna        ;# antenna model
set val(ifqlen)         500                        ;# max packet in ifq
set val(nn)             10                          ;# number of mobilennodes
set val(rp)             AODV                       ;# routing protocol
set val(x)              1000              ;# X dimension of topography
set val(y)              20                  ;# Y dimension of topography
set val(stop)           20             ;# time of simulation end
set val(sc)             "mobility.tcl"
set val(cbr)            "networkTraffic.tcl"

set ns_       [new Simulator]
set tracefd       [open out1.tr w]
set windowVsTime2 [open windowvtime.tr w]
set namtrace      [open simwrls.nam w]
set f0        [open fourwaytraffic.tr w]

set node_size 10
set spacing 50
set num_cars $val(nn)

# Record creates periodically records the bandwidth received by
# traffic sinc 0 and writes it to the three files f0

proc record {} {  
    global sink f0
    set ns_ [Simulator instance]
    
    # Set the next time to call the procedure and collect the time and bw
    set time 0.5
    set bw0 [$sink set bytes_]
    set now [$ns_ now]
    
    # Save the bandwidth to a file and reset the counter and set up the next
    # time to call record again
    puts $f0 "$now [expr $bw0/$time*8/1000000]"
}
$sink set bytes_ 0
$ns_ at [expr $now+$time] "record"
}

# Printing the window size
proc plotWindow {tcpSource file} {
    global ns_
    set time 0.01
    set now [ns_now]
    set cwnd [$tcpSource set cwnd_]
    puts $file "$now $cwnd"
    $ns_ at [expr $now+$time] "plotWindow $tcpSource $file"
}

proc stop {} {
    global ns_tracefd namtrace f0
    $ns_flush-trace
    close $tracefd
    close $namtrace
    close $f0
    exec xgraph fourwaytraffic.tr -geometry 800x400 & #Execute nam on the trace file
    exec nam simwrls.nam &
    exit 0
}

$ns_trace-all $tracefd
$ns_namtrace-all-channel $namtrace $val(x) $val(y)

# Configure the MAC Protocol to use the 802.11p standard
source IEEE802-11p.tcl

# Initialize the Topography, god object and area
set topo [new Topography]
set god_ [create god $val(nn)]
$topo load_flatgrid $val(x) $val(y)

# Create and configure all the nodes upto nn number of nodes
$ns_node-config -adhocRouting $val(rp) \\
-11Type $val(ll) \\
-macType $val(mac) \\
-ifqType $val(ifq) \\
-ifqLen $val(ifqlen) \\
-antType $val(ant) \\
-propType $val(prop) \\
-phyType $val(netif) \\
-channelType $val(chan) \\
-topoInstance $topo \ 
-agentTrace ON \ 
-routerTrace ON \ 
-macTrace OFF \ 
-movementTrace ON
# set num_nodes [expr {$val(nn) * 2}]

for {set i 0} {$i < $val(nn) } { incr i } {
    set node_($i) [$ns_ node]
}

# Define traffic model
puts "Loading mobility.tcl file..."
source $val(sc)
puts "Loading networkTraffic.tcl file..."
source $val(cbr)

# Start logging the received bandwidth
$ns_ at 0.0 "record"
$ns_ at 10.1 "plotWindow $tcp $windowVsTime2"

# Define node initial position in nam
for {set i 0} {$i < $val(nn)} { incr i } {
    # 30 defines the node size for nam
    $ns_ initial_node_pos $node_($i) 10
}

# Telling nodes when the simulation ends
for {set i 0} {$i < $val(nn)} { incr i } {
    $ns_ at $val(stop) "$node_($i) reset";
}

# Ending nam and the simulation
$ns_ at $val(stop) "$ns_ nam-end-wireless $val(stop)"
$ns_ at $val(stop) "stop"
$ns_ at $val(stop) "puts \"end simulation\" ; $ns_ halt"

# Call the finish procedure after 5 seconds of simulation time
$ns_ run 9.2

9.2 Mobility Script
#
# mobility.tcl
#
# Author: Jeremy Borys
# Date: April 12, 2015
#
# set TOPO_Y $val(y)

# The starting origin for the cars along the highway
set ori_x 10.0
set ori_y [expr {$val(y)/2.0}]
set ori_z 0.0

# the final point that the cars move
set final_x 995.0
set final_y [expr {$val(y)/2.0}]

# the velocity of the cars along the highway in m/s
set velocity 30
set lane 0
set lanecnt 0
set xpos 0

for {set i 0} {$i < $num_cars} {incr i} {
    if {[expr {$i % 10}] == 0} {
incr lane
set xpos 0
    }

    $node_($i) set X_ [expr {$ori_x + 50 + $xpos * $spacing}]
$node_($i) set Y_ [expr {$ori_y - $lane * 15}]
$node_($i) set Z_ $ori_z
incr xpos
}

$node_(0) set X_ 5
$node_(0) set Y_ [expr {$ori_y + 30}]

for {set i 0} {$i < $num_cars} {incr i} {
    $ns_ at 0.0 "$node_($i) setdest $final_x $final_y $velocity"
}

9.3 Network Traffic script
#
# networkTraffic.tcl
#
# Author: Jeremy Borys
# Date: April 12, 2015

set ns $ns_
$ns_ color 1 Blue
$ns_ color 1 Red

# generate the background traffic using a pre-generated script
source cbrconntest1.tcl

# Set a TCP connection between node_(0) and node_(1)
set tcp [new Agent/TCP/Newreno]
# $tcp set class_ 2
# $tcp set color 1 Blue
$tcp set rate_ 1200k
$tcp set packetSize_ 1024

set ftp [new Application/FTP]
$ftp attach-agent $tcp
$ns_ at 1.0 "$ftp start"

set sink [new Agent/TCPSink]

$ns_ attach-agent $node_(0) $tcp
$ns_ attach-agent $node_(9) $sink
$ns_ connect $tcp $sink
9.4 Constant Bitrate traffic

# This script was autogenerated using ns cbrgen.tcl
# nodes: 9, max conn: 1, send rate: 0.01, seed: 1
#
# 1 connecting to 2 at time 0.28409320874330274
#
set udp_ (0) [new Agent/UDP]
$ns_ attach-agent $node_(1) $udp_(0)
set null_(0) [new Agent/Null]
$ns_ attach-agent $node_(2) $null_(0)
set cbr_(0) [new Application/Traffic/CBR]
$cbr_(0) set packetSize_ 512
$cbr_(0) set interval_ 0.01
$cbr_(0) set random_ 1
$cbr_(0) set maxpkts_ 10000
$cbr_(0) attach-agent $udp_(0)
$ns_ connect $udp_(0) $null_(0)
$ns_ at 0.28409320874330274 "$cbr_(0) start"

9.5 OSM to NS2 mobility file generation

#!/bin/sh
# mobilityGen.sh
#
# Convert a map.osm to a mobility file for use with NS-2
#
# Author: Jeremy Borys
# Date: April 12, 2015
#
echo 'File to read:' $1
echo 'Number of Cars:' $2

# Extracting the file name from osm
fname=${1%.osm}

# Assuming that typemap.xml has been downloaded otherwise have to download from internet
cp ../typemap.xml ./typemap.xml

SUMO_HOME=~/untarred_files/sumo-0.23.0

# create map from open street map, typemap.xml is located on SUMO's documentation
netconvert --osm-files ./$1 -$o ./$fname.net.xml
polyconvert --net-file ./$fname.net.xml --osm-files ./$1 --type-file ./typemap.xml -o ./$fname.poly.xml

# Generates random trips
python $SUMO_HOME/tools/trip/randomTrips.py -n ./$fname.net.xml -e $2 -l
python $SUMO_HOME/tools/trip/randomTrips.py -n ./$fname.net.xml -r ./$fname.rou.xml -e $2 -l
# Create a sumocfg file to load with sumo
echo "<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>

<configuration xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
xsi:noNamespaceSchemaLocation="http://sumo.dlr.de/xsd/sumoConfiguration.xsd">
  
  <input>
    <net-file value="$fname.net.xml"/>
    <route-files value="$fname.rou.xml"/>
    <additional-files value="$fname.poly.xml"/>
  
  <time>
    <begin value="0"/>
    <end value="300"/>
    <step-length value="0.1"/>
  
  </time>

</configuration>" > $fname.sumocfg

# As of sumo 2.23 location is not a valid xml variable and is commented out
sed -e 's/<location/>!-/location/ -e 's/no_defs"/"/>no_defs"/ -e
$fname.poly.xml > tmp && mv tmp $fname.poly.xml

sumo -c $fname.sumocfg --fcd-output $fname.fcd.xml
python ~/untarred_files/sumo-0.23.0/tools/traceExporter.py -i $fname.fcd.xml --ns2mobility-output=$fname.ns2mob

9.6 Generating a distance based solutions
# genNetTrafficInRange.py
#
# This script will parse through a mobility file and determine
# when a node should connect to another node
#
# Author: Jeremy Borys
# Date: April 12, 2015
#

import re
import math

NODE = 0
FILE = 'testcase1'
RANGE = 30

# update_pos = re.compile('.*$node_{(0-9)}* setdest {(0-9)*.[0-9].*} {(0-9)*.[0-9]}')

update_pos = re.compile('([0-9]*.[0-9]*) "\($node_{([0-9]*)}\) setdest {([0-9]*.[0-9]*) ([0-9]*.[0-9]*) ([0-9]*.[0-9]*)}')

X, Y = 0, 1
pos = {}

class Car():
    def __init__(self):
        x = 0
        y = 0

conn_map = {}

def main():
    with open(FILE) as f:
        mobility = f.readlines()

        for line in mobility:
            # read the line and find all important information
            m = update_pos.search(line)
            if not m:
                continue
            # store the current position of the node
            pos.update({m.group(2): [float(m.group(3)), float(m.group(4))]})

            # Maintain a connection map to determine which node is connected to what
            conn_map.update({m.group(2): {m.group(2): 1}})

            if m.group(1) == '$node_(0)'
                # print pos['$node_(0)']
                # import pdb; pdb.set_trace()

            for node1, val1 in pos.items():
                # print "comparing %s" % node1
                # print "................"
                for key2, val2 in pos.items():
                    # print "%s => %s" % (node1, key2)
                    if node1 == key2:
                        continue
                    # if (node1 == '$node_(4)' or key2 == '$node_(4)') and (node1 == '$node_(6)' or key2 == '$node_(6)'):
                        # import pdb; pdb.set_trace()

                    dist = math.sqrt((val1[0] - val2[0])**2 + (val1[1] - val2[1])**2)

                    if dist < RANGE:
                        if conn_map[node1].get(key2, 0):
                            # print "Flipping from 0>1:"
                            conn_map[node1].get(key2, 0)
                            # print "%s already connected to %s" % (node1, key2)
                            continue
                        else:
                            conn_map[node1].set(key2, 1)
import pdb; pdb.set_trace()
print "DIST: %f, %s will connect to %s" % (dist, node1, key2)

conn_map[node1][key2] = 1
conn_map[key2][node1] = 1

elif dist > RANGE:
    if conn_map[node1].get(key2, 0):
        # pass
        # import pdb; pdb.set_trace()
        print "DIST: %f, %s is flipping from %s 1->0" % (dist, node1, key2)
    else:  # not connected
        pass
        conn_map[node1][key2] = 0
        conn_map[key2][node1] = 0
else:
    print "should never go here"

# for line in mobility:
#     if update_pos.search(line):
#         curpos[X], curpos[Y] = update_pos.search(line)
#         continue
#     elif:
#         print "Not found"

if __name__ == '__main__':
    main()