

Minimisation of Hand-off Failure Probability and False Hand-off Initiation in Low Latency Next Generation Wireless Networks

Koushik Kumar Nundy^[1], Himanish Mukherjee^[2]

B.Tech student, Department of ECE
NIT Durgapur
West Bengal, India

^[1]kknundy@gmail.com, ^[2]himanish@sify.com

Mrinal Kanti Naskar

Professor, Department of ETCE
Jadavpur University
West Bengal, India
mrinalnaskar@yahoo.co.in

Debabrata Sarddar

Ph.D. student, Department of CSE
Jadavpur University
West Bengal, India
dsarddar@rediffmail.com

Utpal Biswas

Senior Lecturer, Department of CSE
University of Kalyani
Kalyani, India
utpal01in@yahoo.com

Abstract—This paper presents a method of reducing handoff delay and minimising handoff failure probability using available technology, without compromising bandwidth efficiency considerably, by altering and streamlining the functionality and task division of the contemporary handoff technique. This would result in fewer call failures and in congestion-free networks.

Keywords- NGWS, 4G Networks, handoff, intrasystem

I. INTRODUCTION

There is a need for reduced handoff time in Next Generation Wireless Systems (NGWS), since lower handoff periods would result in higher data efficiency and fewer handoff failures. This would cause fewer data packet losses resulting in higher QoS, which is a primary facet of NGWS networks. Moreover, 4G networks integrate certain microcellular networks, like IEEE 802.11, which requires quicker handoff because number of handoffs become exponentially higher and cell size dramatically drops with respect to macrocellular networks. Also effectively, the time spent in handoff cannot be used for useful data transfer. In this paper, we propose a mechanism to reduce handoff latency time and produce a handoff mechanism with failure probability tending to zero.

II. METHOD

Proposed methods in the literature have used velocity and position information using layer (2+3) of the mobile station ([1] and [3]), for both contemporary and NGWS networks. Here we use a simple approach based on the above mentioned technologies to reduce handoff failure rate by dividing the handoff procedure into two major subparts:

- 1) A General Part, which is same for all mobile stations,
- and

- 2) A Specific part, which is for each individual mobile station.

The general part includes sections like probability of movement to a certain New Base Station (NBS), based on location region. This can be saved in a tabular form as it is constant for all mobile stations. The specific part contains International Mobile Subscriber Identity (IMSI), authentication, etc. This part is considered the effective handoff delay in the scenario in discussion.

A. Basic cell patterns

Here for simplicity, we consider an intrasystem handoff in a homogenous honeycomb network. For an intrasystem handoff we know the time required to perform the handoff.

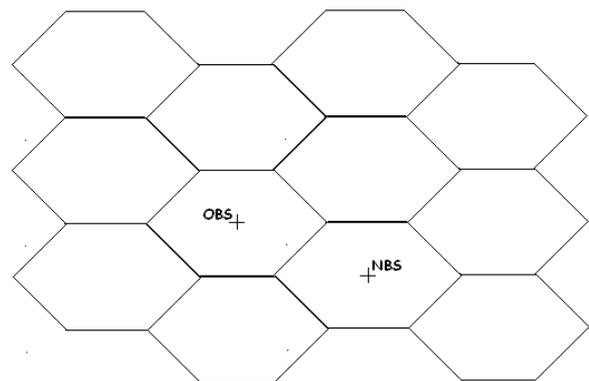


Figure 1. Honeycomb Homogenous network.

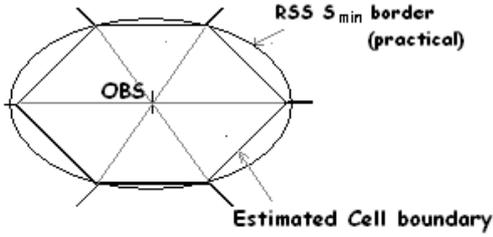


Figure 2. One Cell

Let us consider it as τ_1 . We may get the velocity and position of the mobile station using Doppler effect and received signal strength (RSS), from [2] and [3]. If we know the velocity, the total time delay for handoff and the cell size for $RSS \geq$ Threshold value, we can calculate the position from which we can optimally begin handoff.

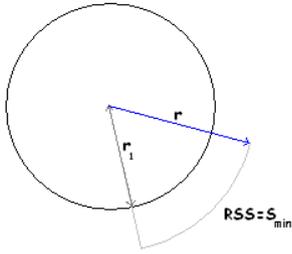


Figure 3. Radial distances from OBS for circular cell

If radial velocity of Mobile Station (MS) = v and effective radius of cell = r , then let us assume we need to begin the handoff at distance r_1 from OBS using circular cell. Therefore, $\frac{r-r_1}{v} = t_d$ is the time taken to traverse from given position to boundary.

For maximum efficiency, $t_d \rightarrow \tau_1$.

For zero failure probability, $t_d \gg \tau_1$.

However, considering that MS is moving at constant radial speed, we can say that handoff failure probability is zero for $t_d = \tau_1 + \Delta t$, where Δt is a tiny amount of time. With higher data efficiency (low latency) or low velocity, r_1 approaches higher value, with limiting case (ideal) being $r_1 = r$, when latency time is reduced to zero. In a hexagonal honeycomb we can estimate from the position the new base station to which MS has the highest probability of moving to. For each 60° section there is a 1:1 correspondence of new base stations.

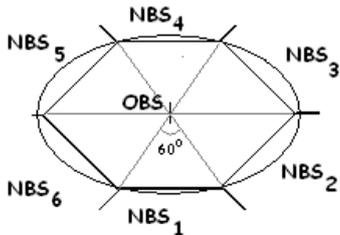


Figure 4. 1:1 NBS correspondence per 60° division

So we can proceed with parts of handoff like checking for channel availability without actually waiting for the detection of NBS from MS. Although this results in higher bandwidth cost, it causes moving of major handoff data to preregistration period, causing fewer data packet losses during actual handoff, resulting in reduced failure probability.

B. Bandwidth Offset

This approach however has a shortcoming. Due to considering only position and not direction of travel, false handoff probability is higher than usual. However there is a provision for low latency. This results in increase in r_1 . This in turn reduces area of concern. This negates the previous effect to a certain degree as from lower area of concern, probability of moving to other new base stations is low thus reducing false handoff.

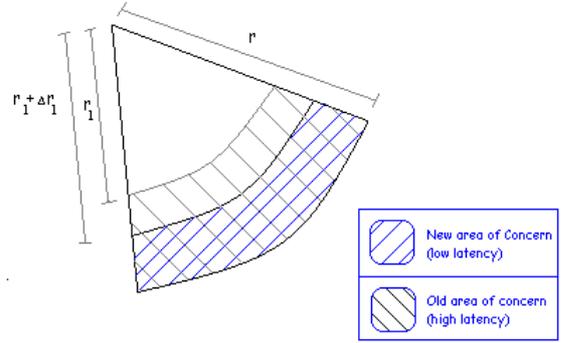


Figure 5. Old and new latency regions

C. Overlapping factor

We see from the following figure that the 60° divisions remains same for similar honeycomb patterns, even if the cells overlap partially, as long as there is some semblance of uniformity (Figure 6). Consequently, the 1:1 correspondence is still maintained in this case, between each 60° sector and the neighbouring NBSs.

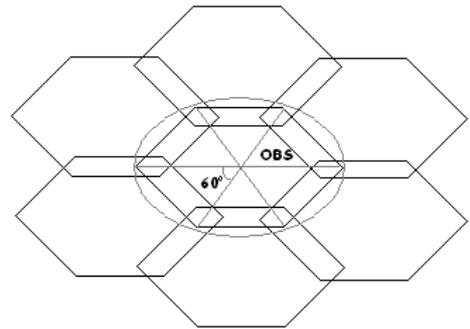


Figure 6. Overlapping cells

D. Unequal Cells

For cells of unequal size, the logic remains unchanged (Figure 7). Only the aforementioned value of 60° changes according to the cell topography.

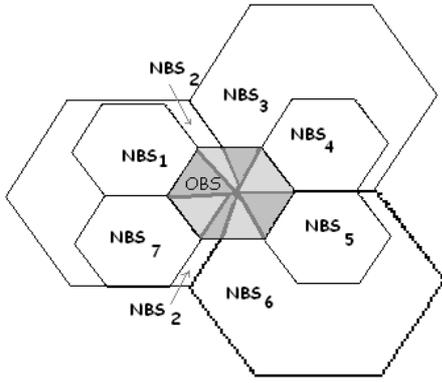


Figure 7. Unequal cells

III. MATHEMATICAL ANALYSIS

Considering radial velocity is outward, which is obvious (because, there is no requirement of handoff otherwise), we get a 180° band which is our region of concern for calculation of false handoff initiation linear invariant velocity estimation.

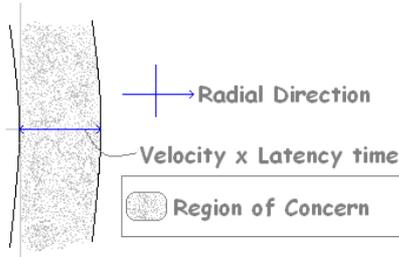


Figure 8. Region of Concern

A. Low latency microcellular

- 1) Radius of circular cell = 20 m
- 2) Latency time = 100 ms
- 3) Speed (Outward radial) = 18 km/h
- 4) Starting point of handoff (distance from OBS) = 19.5 m
- 5) Point beyond which false handoff cannot occur (for 60° region explained in section II (A)) = 17.32 m

Thus, Probability of false handoff (for 60° region explained in section II (A)) = 0%

B. Low latency macrocellular

- 1) Radius of circular cell = 1000 m
- 2) Latency time = 100 ms
- 3) Speed (Outward radial) = 36 km/h
- 4) Starting point of handoff (distance from OBS) = 999 m
- 5) Point beyond which false handoff cannot occur (for 60° region) = 867 m

Thus, Probability of false handoff (for 60° region) = 0%

C. High latency microcellular

- 1) Radius of circular cell = 20 m
- 2) Latency time = 1 s
- 3) Speed (Outward radial) = 18 km/h
- 4) Starting point of handoff (distance from OBS) = 15 m
- 5) Point beyond which false handoff cannot occur (for 60° region) = 17.32 m

$$\text{Thus, Probability of false handoff (for } 60^\circ \text{ region)} = \frac{180^\circ - 153.9^\circ}{180^\circ} \times 100 = 14.5\%$$

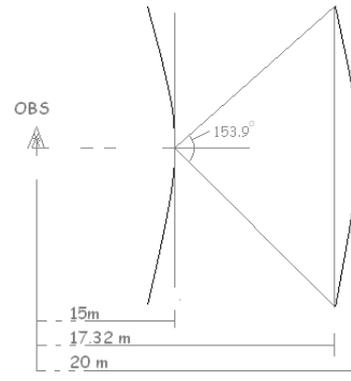


Figure 9. Geometric Representation of high latency microcellular

D. High latency macrocellular

- 1) Radius of circular cell = 1000 m
- 2) Latency time = 1 s
- 3) Speed (Outward radial) = 36 km/h
- 4) Starting point of handoff (distance from OBS) = 990 m
- 5) Point beyond which false handoff cannot occur (for 60° region) = 867 m

Thus, Probability of false handoff (for 60° region) = 0%.

Hence, we can see that the problem of false handoff initiation discussed in II (B) is faced minimally (mostly in high latency microcellular networks). This, too, is not a major issue of concern, as we are considering low latency networks here. Moreover, in microcellular networks, we generally do not see mobile stations moving at velocities as high as 18 km/h. At a velocity of 9.65 km/h or below, the probability would be reduced to zero. So, the problem of II (B) is taken care of.

IV. SIMULATION

For varied values of velocity and cell size, in both high and low latency networks, we see how the false handoff initiation probability varies in figures 10 to 13.

As we can see above, the question of false hand off initiation arises only at very high velocities, more so for low latency networks. This is due to the reasons explained earlier in Section III. These speeds are rarely if ever reached and thus need not bother us.

Moreover, the minor shortcomings of this near perfect behaviour, is offset by the fact that our procedure accounts for zero handoff failure probability in practically all scenarios.

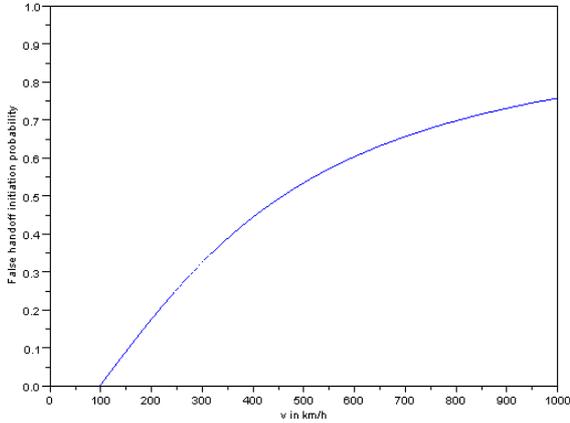


Figure 10. Low latency microcellular
Latency time = 100ms
Radius of cell = 20m

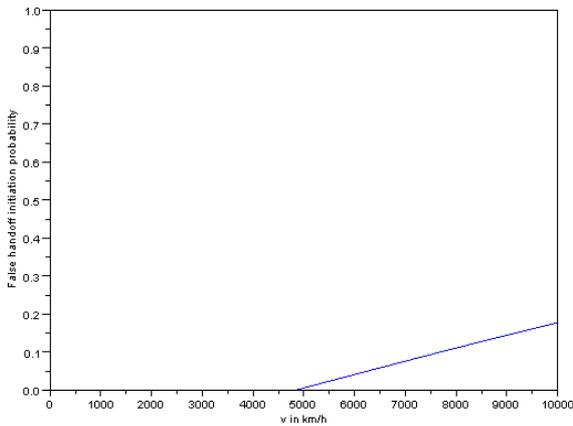


Figure 11. Low latency macrocellular
Latency time = 100ms
Radius of cell = 1000m

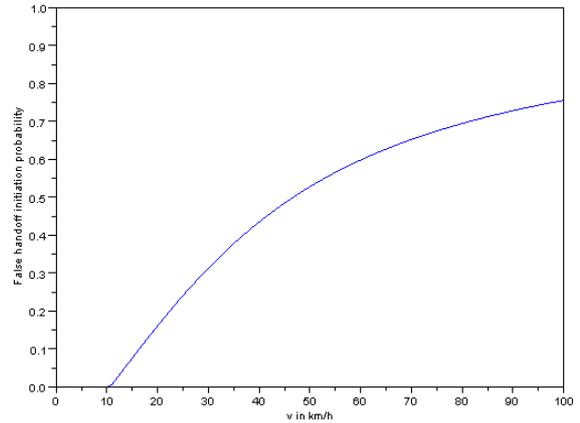


Figure 12. High latency microcellular
Latency time = 1s
Radius of cell = 20m

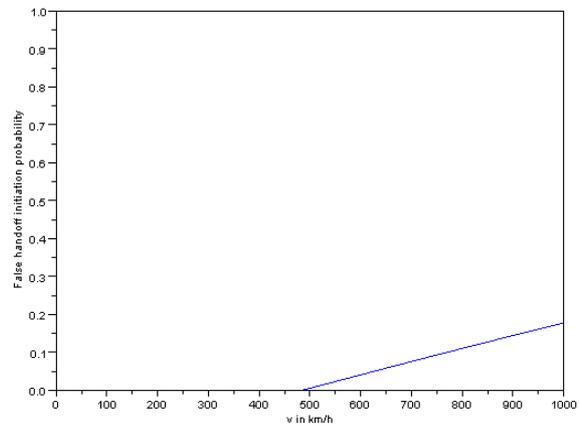


Figure 13. High latency macrocellular
Latency time = 1s
Radius of cell = 1000m

V. CONCLUSIONS

Thus we can see that by suitably restructuring the functional divisions as explained above, we can reduce the latency period, albeit at a minimally higher bandwidth cost, for a short period, which would be offset by the lower network congestion due to lower latency. This would then result in speedier handoffs, lower handoff failure rates and higher network efficiency. This behaviour would be present irrespective of the presence of overlap and heterogenous networks as explained above.

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Koushik Kumar Nundy (M'09) is currently pursuing his B.Tech Final Year in Electronics and Communication Engineering, at the National Institute of Technology, Durgapur. He is a Technical Associate with Thinkbiosoln. Mr. Nundy is a member of NIT-Dgp GLUG and an openSUSE ambassador. He received the National Talent Search Scholarship in 2004.



Himanish Mukherjee is currently pursuing his B.Tech Final Year in Electronics and Communication Engineering, at the National Institute of Technology, Durgapur.

Debabrata Sarddar is currently pursuing his PhD at Jadavpur University. He completed his M.Tech in Computer Science & Engineering from DAVV, Indore in 2006, and his B.Tech in Computer Science from Regional Engineering College, Durgapur in 2001.

He was earlier a lecturer at DAVV, Indore and Kalyani University.

Utpal Biswas is a Senior Lecturer at Kalyani University, West Bengal, India.



Mrinal Kanti Naskar received his B.Tech. (Hons) and M.Tech from E&ECE Department, IIT Kharagpur, India in 1987 and 1989 respectively. His research interests include Computer Networks and Embedded Computing.

He served as a faculty member in NIT, Jamshedpur and NIT, Durgapur during 1991–1996 and 1996–1999 respectively. Currently, he is a professor in the Department of Electronics and Tele-Communication Engineering, Jadavpur University, Kolkata, India.

Prof. Naskar is a co-author of the article

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