

A Hierarchical P2P Overlay for Hierarchical Mobile Ad hoc Networks (MANETs)

Submitted by aekwall on Mon, 04/06/2020 - 10:15am

Title A Hierarchical P2P Overlay for Hierarchical Mobile Ad hoc Networks (MANETs)

Publication Type Conference Paper

Year of Publication 2019

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Conference Name 2019 IEEE 10th Annual Ubiquitous Computing, Electronics Mobile Communication Conference (UEMCON)

Keywords [dedicated servers](#), [deployment](#), [deployment solution](#), [DHT](#), [dynamic topology changes](#), [flat logical overlay](#), [hierarchical MANETs](#), [hierarchical mobile ad hoc networks](#), [Hierarchical Networks](#), [hierarchical underlay](#), [human factors](#), [MANET](#), [Metrics](#), [mobile ad hoc networks](#), [mobile devices](#), [mobility scenarios](#), [OMNET++](#), [P2P](#), [peer to peer security](#), [Peer-to-peer computing](#), [pubcrawl](#), [Resiliency](#), [Scalability](#), [specific performance challenges](#), [specific routing roles](#), [Structured Overlay](#), [tactical networks](#), [telecommunication network routing](#), [telecommunication network topology](#), [telecommunication security](#), [topology-awareness](#), [underlay mismatch](#), [underlay topology](#), [wireless networks](#)

Abstract P2P applications deployment on MANETs is motivated by the popularity of these applications, coupled with the widespread use of mobile devices. P2P applications and MANETs have common features such as decentralization, self organization, and the absence of dedicated servers or infrastructure. The deployment often faces specific performance challenges resulting from topological overlay and underlay mismatch, limited bandwidth constraint and dynamic topology changes. Hierarchical MANETs are a special type of MANETs where some nodes have specific routing roles to allow inter-cluster communications. Such topologies (typical for tactical networks) render a successful P2P deployment more challenging. We developed a novel approach for P2P deployment in such networks by bringing topology-awareness into the overlay, mapping the underlay topology (structure) to the logical overlay and building a hierarchically-structured logical overlay on top of the hierarchical underlay. Simulation results demonstrated a significant performance advantage of our proposed deployment solution vs. a flat logical overlay using different configurations and mobility scenarios.

DOI [10.1109/UEMCON47517.2019.8993022](https://doi.org/10.1109/UEMCON47517.2019.8993022)

Citation Key gelil_hierarchical_2019



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