Social Information for Delay-Tolerant Network Routing

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Mobile DTNs

- Ad hoc
- Episodic connectivity
- High delay
- Traditional TCP/IP does not cope
- Small wireless mobile devices
- Store-and-forward architecture
- Constrained power





Social networks for DTN routing

- Discover topology as they are ad hoc
- People encounter many different individuals throughout the day
- Exploiting the social links individuals have in order to aid routing
- Can we use social networks to improve DTN performance?



Using Social Networks for DTN routing

- Obtain list of users social contacts
- Only forward messages via these individuals
- More efficient than flooding?





Experiment

- Explore social network routing
- Collected records from 25 users for 80 days
- Records: node seen, timing and RSSI
- 112,292 encounters
- Trace-driven simulation of message passing app



Results

- Results for one month
- Records were sparse
- Low delivery ratio
- Standard deviation overlaps







Challenges

- Tmote Invent hardware not fully supported by TinyOS2
- Small memory (48KB)
- Event-based programming in NesC
- Battery life around 12 hours
- Short range: 12-16m
- Difficult to encourage participants to carry motes at all times



Mobility Simulation

- "Filling in" gaps in sensor data
- Simulate user movement with mobility model
- Random waypoint model, constrained to roads
- Nodes must be at locations when their real world counterparts were
- Second simulation with sleep cycle
- Simulate message passing application
- Working on these in the future





Conclusions and Future work

- There are challenges to DTN creation
- Can result in sparse dataset
- Sensible hardware doesn't always lead to sensible results
- Getting the users involved is more important
- Adding mobility to sims
- Would like to analyse other data sets

