

Holistic Packet Statistics for Neighborhood Management in Sensor Networks

Sebastian Ernst, Christian Renner, Christoph Weyer, Volker Turau

Fachgespräch "Drahtlose Sensornetze", Würzburg

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Introduction

Knowing Your Neighbors

Reasons

- Clustering
- Collaborative node tasks
- Routing
- Self-* algorithms

Problems & Challenges

- Addition or failure of nodes
- Temporal changes of wireless channel
- Comparison and prediction of links

Simply track your neighbors and associated link qualities!

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Simply?

Link Assessment Options

Physical Measures

- Signal-to-Noise Ratio (SNR)
- Link Quality Indicator (LQI)
- ...

- + Provided by hardware
- Hardware-dependent, Requires actual packet reception, Difficult-to-compensate effects

Logical Measures

- Packet History
e.g., Packet Success Rate (PSR)
- State of known nodes
- ...

- + Reflects application-centric link quality
- Requires packet transmission

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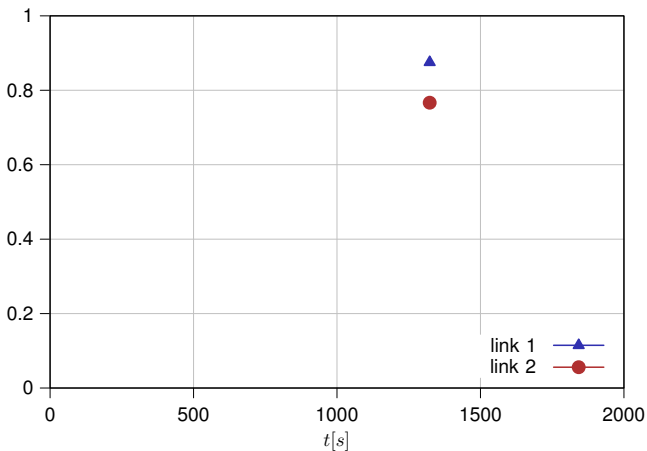
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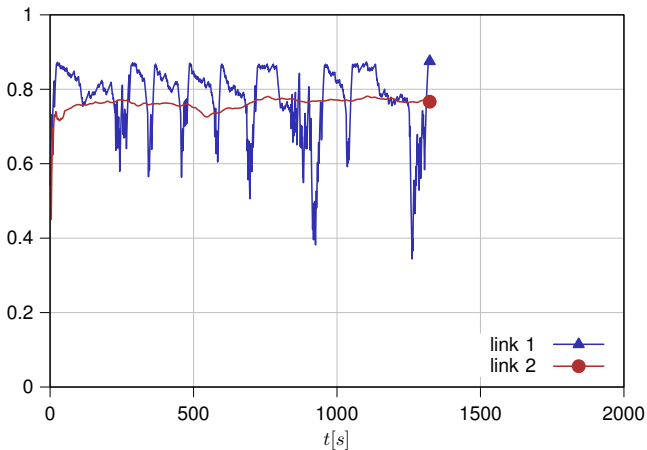
The Swiss Army Knife Problem

or the tale of describing a link with a single value



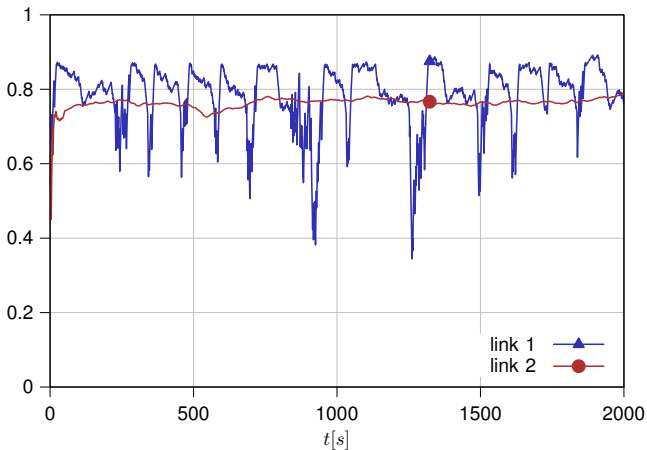
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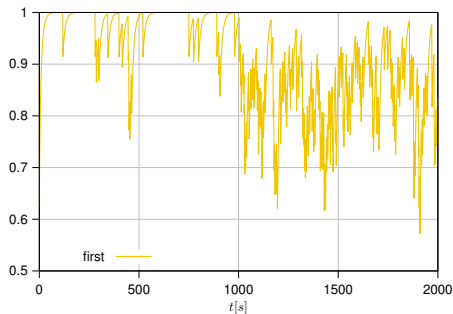
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Holistic Packet Statistics - HoPS

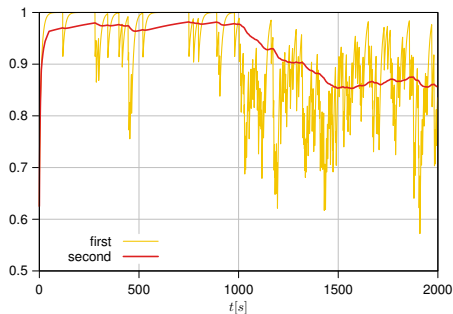
Holistic Packet Statistics - HoPS

1. Short-term analysis
 - ▷ first-order smoothing
2. Long-term analysis
 - ▷ second-order smoothing
3. Oscillation
 - ▷ absolute average deviation
4. Trend
 - ▷ estimation error



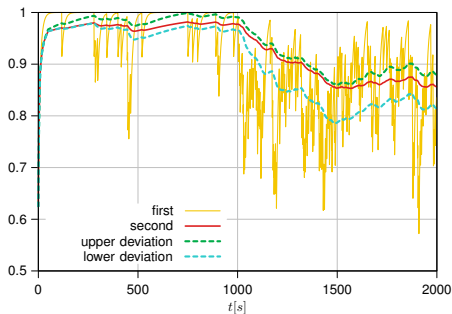
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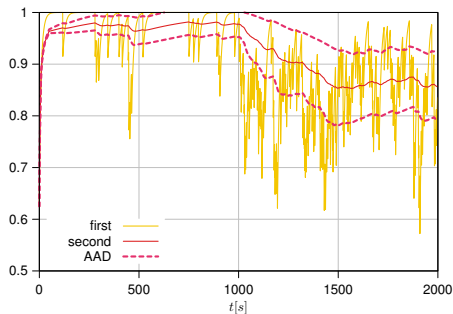
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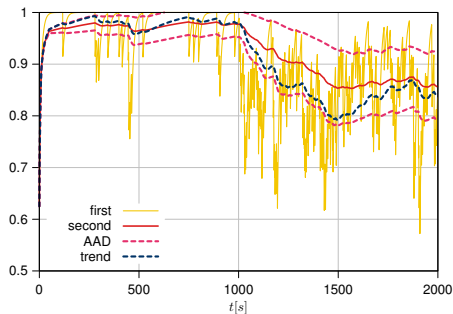
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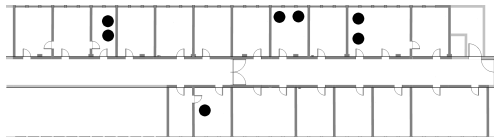
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A Case Study

Setup



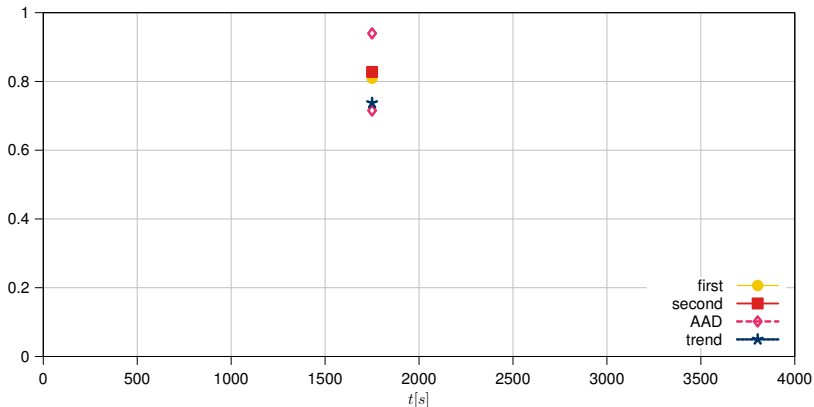
Link Traces

- Real-world office experiment with IRIS nodes
- Synthetic links

Evaluation method

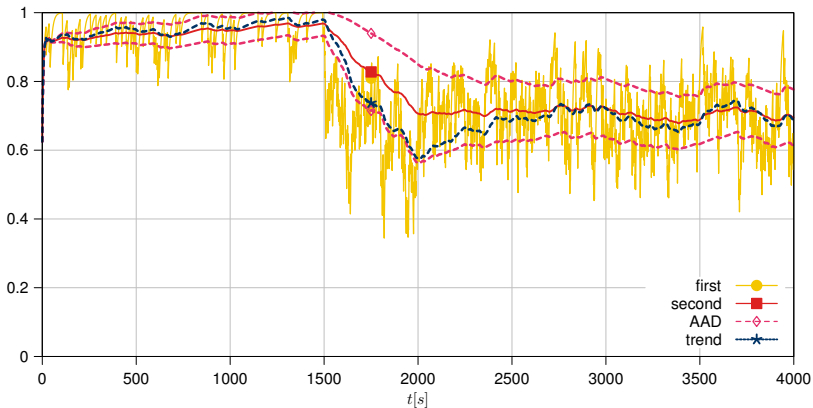
- Java Test Suite
- Simulation of TinyOS implementation (16 bit integers)

Sudden Quality Drop



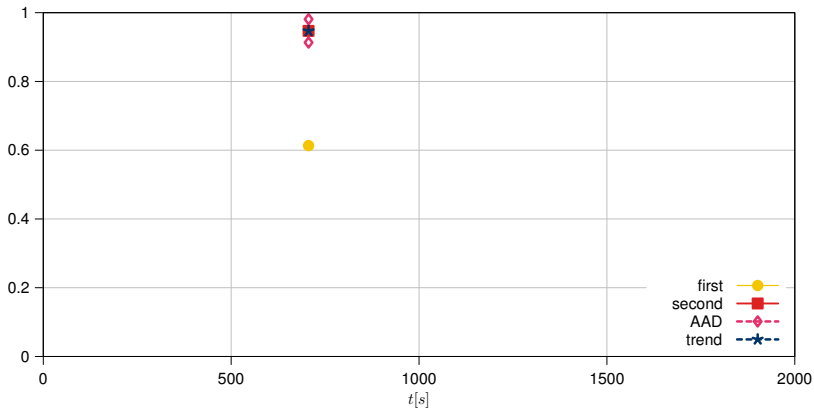
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- clearly negative trend

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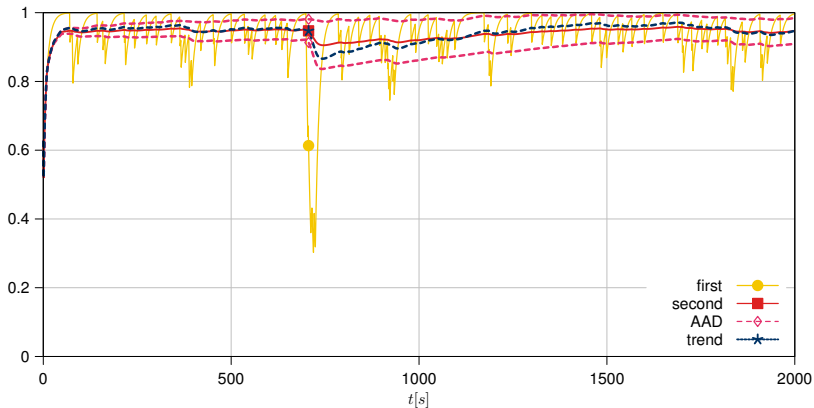
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Temporary Disturbance



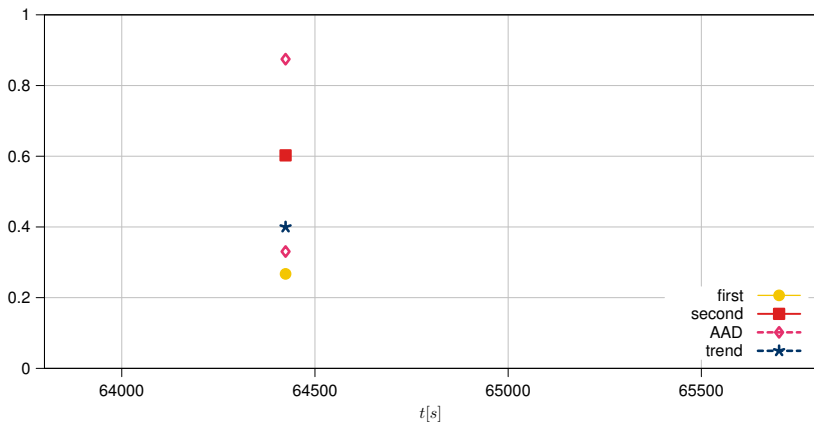
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- first order smoothing far away from oscillation bounds

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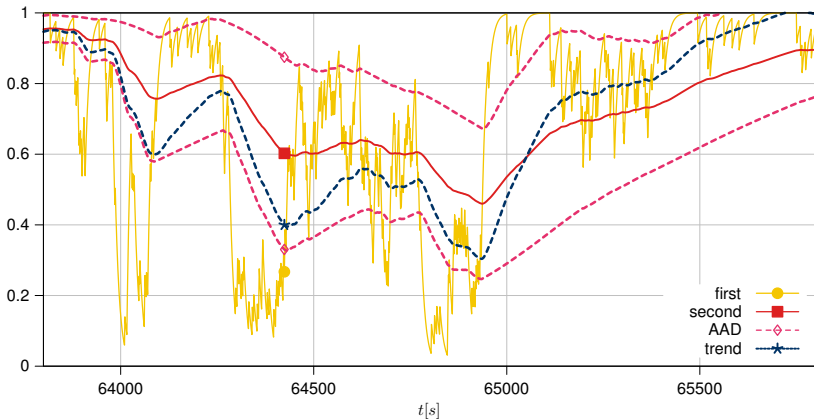
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Highly Fluctuating Link



- very large oscillation
- clearly negative trend

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Conclusion

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The reward ...

- Short- and long-term analysis of link quality
- Oscillation and trend indicators
- Sophisticated link assessment and behavior prediction
- Fulfillment of application-specific demands
- Same speed as single EWMA estimation

and the prize

- Interpretation and comparability is more complex
- Higher usage of memory and computation power
8 byte, 4 multiplications (EWMA)

Work in Progress



- Comparison with other link quality estimators
- Analysis of relation with hardware metrics (SNR, LQI)
- Assessment of link-quality prediction
- Integration into Mahalle neighborhood protocol
- Handling of non-uniform packet reception patterns

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First- and Second-Order Smoothing

First-order Smoothing

$$\xi_t = \alpha \cdot \xi_{t-1} + (1 - \alpha) \cdot P_t, \quad P_t = \begin{cases} 1 & , \quad t^{\text{th}} \text{ packet received} \\ 0 & , \quad t^{\text{th}} \text{ packet missed} \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

$$\xi_t = (1 - \alpha) \cdot \sum_{i=0}^n \alpha^i \cdot P_{t-i} + \alpha^{n+1} \cdot \xi_{t-(n+1)} \quad (2)$$

Second-order Smoothing

$$\nu_t = \beta \cdot \nu_{t-1} + (1 - \beta) \cdot \xi_t \quad (3)$$

▷ Back

Upper and Lower Deviation

Estimated mean $\tilde{\mu} = \mu + \Delta\mu$ of X with estimation error $\Delta\mu$ and

$$\mu = E\{X\}, \quad X^+ = \{x \in X | x > \tilde{\mu}\}, \quad X^- = X \setminus X^+, \quad n = |X|$$

Upper and Lower deviation

$$\delta^- := \frac{1}{n} \sum_{x^- \in X^-} (\tilde{\mu} - x^-), \quad \delta^+ := \frac{1}{n} \sum_{x^+ \in X^+} (x^+ - \tilde{\mu}) \quad (4)$$

Practical calculation

$$\delta_t^+ = \gamma \cdot \delta_{t-1}^+ + (1 - \gamma) \cdot \varphi(\xi_t, \nu_t) \quad (5)$$

$$\delta_t^- = \gamma \cdot \delta_{t-1}^- + (1 - \gamma) \cdot \varphi(\nu_t, \xi_t) \quad (6)$$

$$\varphi(a, b) = \begin{cases} a - b & , \quad \text{if } a > b \\ 0 & , \quad \text{else} \end{cases} \quad (7)$$

Oscillation

$$\begin{aligned}\delta^+ + \delta^- &= \frac{1}{n} \left(\sum_{x \in X^+} (x - \tilde{\mu}) + \sum_{x \in X^-} (\tilde{\mu} - x) \right) & (8) \\ &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{x \in X^+} (x - \mu) - \Delta\mu + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{x \in X^-} (\mu - x) + \Delta\mu \\ &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{x \in X} |x - \mu|\end{aligned}$$

▷ Back

Trend

$$\begin{aligned}\delta^+ - \delta^- &\stackrel{(4)}{=} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{x \in X} (\tilde{\mu} - x) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{x \in X} (\mu + \Delta\mu - x) & (9) \\ &= \underbrace{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{x \in X} (\mu - x)}_{=0} + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{x \in X} \Delta\mu = \Delta\mu\end{aligned}$$

▷ Back