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A Novel Framework for Model Checking UDP Network Interactions

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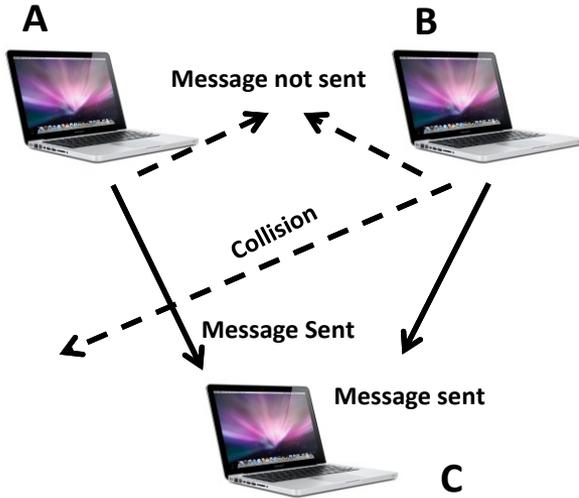
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A Novel Framework for Model Checking UDP Network Interactions

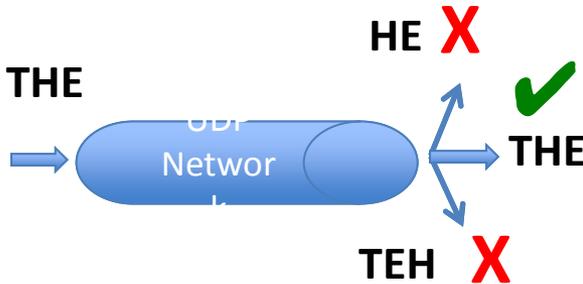
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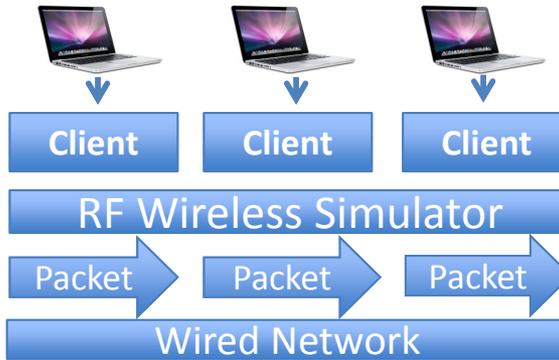
Model checking network interactions. Computer A attempts to send a message to C while B is not sending anything. To ensure the program can handle *all* states, the model must be checked for how it handles correct transmissions (A to C and B to C), as well as collisions, message loss, and all other possible input combinations.



UDP networks send data along an unreliable channel. Trying to send the message "THE" can result in packet loss "HE" and reordering "TEH." To date, this framework is the only one to simulate these common transmission errors.

Objective:

- Extend the Java Pathfinder model checking system to verify that the wireless network simulator used in Brad Richards's networking class correctly handles all possible interactions between simulated clients.

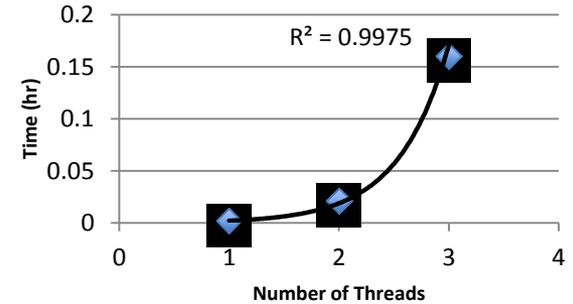


Methods

- Developed a novel framework for modeling realistic UDP transmissions (simulated packet loss and out-of-order transmissions). This extends the work of UCSB's Netstub.
- Adopted the protocol developed in Artho and Garoche to wrap sender and receiver client processes as threads.
- Framework utilizes the transformations developed in Stoller and Liu for simplifying distributed program models: 1) replacing remote method invocations with local methods and 2) centralizing processes as threads.
- Framework available at: <https://www.github.com/billyrathje/Java-Pathfinder-UDP-Networking-Stub>

Results

- Developed a library for modeling UDP networks with Java Pathfinder.
- Extended Brad Richards's RF network simulator for model checking.
- Verification of the simulator succeeded (no deadlocks or errors) for 1-4 clients.
- The model of the RF simulator is verified correct.



Verification times for the model increase exponentially with increasing number of threads. Run time is faster than NetStub by over a factor of 10 for comparable runs.

Summary

- Developed a novel framework for model checking UDP networks.
- Model checked RF networking simulator with Java Pathfinder.
- Verified model of networking simulator.

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